

DENALI HARDWOOD FLOORS RADIANT HEAT GUIDELINES 12/1/23

Radiant Heat/underfloor heating has become a popular method to efficiently and evenly heat homes. Many types of floor coverings perform well over these systems, including hardwood, but, because hardwood is a natural product, care must be taken to ensure a successful and long-lasting installation. Installing Denali hardwood flooring over a non-approved system, or not following recommended procedures can result in gaps/separation between the boards, as well as potentially causing the boards to check or split. We recommend closely adhering to the following guidelines:

1. Recommended products: Engineered floors with face veneer no thicker than 4mm only, solid floors are not approved.
2. Species: Oak, Maple, and Birch are the only species we recommend for over radiant heat systems. Hickory is not approved.
3. Installations are approved only over Hydronic systems; not over electric systems due to their tendency to concentrate heat in limited areas near the electrical wires.
4. A high-quality system should be used that assures even distribution of heat and no more than a 3-degree temperature variation within a 24" radius.
5. The Hydronic system needs to be turned on for a minimum period of 5 days before the installation of the floor.
6. Flooring should be acclimated in the home in unopened cartons for at least 72 hours before installation.
7. The subfloor surface temperature as well as the finished floor surface temperature must never exceed 85 degrees.
8. Floors should be installed using glue down or floating methods only; no mechanical fastening is recommended.
9. At the beginning of a heating season, the radiant heat system should be slowly brought up to temperature over a several-day period.
10. Additional humidification may be required to maintain the environment within the National Wood Flooring Association's recommended relative humidity range of 35-55%.