

LOOSE CABLE ELECTRIC UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEM – INSTALLATION MANUAL

Important Safeguards and Warnings

The safety and reliability of any underfloor heating system depends on professional design, installation, and testing.

Incorrect installation or mishandling of the product can cause damage to the heating cable, system components and property, and can create a risk of fire or electric shock. The guidelines and instructions contained in this manual are important. Follow them carefully to minimize these risks and to ensure that the heating mat system performs reliably.

If the heating mat system is damaged or not installed properly, fire or electric shock could occur resulting in serious personal injuries and/or damage to property. You must carefully follow the warnings and instructions contained in this manual.

Pay special attention to the following:

Instructions marked as “!” - IMPORTANT

Safety warnings marked as “⚠” - WARNING

- An appropriate thermostat must be used to control the Heating Mat.
- It is important that this equipment is installed only by a qualified electrician who is familiar with the proper sizing, installation, construction and operation of floor heating systems and the hazards involved. The installation must comply with the 18th Edition IET Wiring Regulations (BS 7671:2018) and subsequent amendments. All new electrical installations will need to comply with BS 7671:2018. If you are unfamiliar with these requirements, contact a qualified and authorised electrician.
- The heating cable system is designed for underfloor heating purposes only. Be sure that the floor is not penetrated by nails, screws, or similar devices that can cause damage on the initial installation or during subsequent floor repairs in the future.
- If the heating cable system is damaged, it must be replaced or repaired by a specialist company.
- De-energize all power circuits before installation or servicing.
- Keep the ends of heating devices and kit components dry before and during installation:
- The conductive layer of this heating device must be connected to a suitable grounding/earthing terminal. Consult a qualified Electrician for information.
- A ground fault protection device must be used with this heating device. Consult a qualified Electrician for information on appropriate devices.
- Radical Heating Solutions products utilize the constant wattage series resistance heating cables and cannot be shortened in any way.
- The heating portion of the heating device must not touch, cross over, or overlap itself and cannot be used over any combustible material.
- The heating cable must not extend beyond the room or area in which it originates.
- The heating mat is not to be installed in walls.

1. General Information

1.1 Use of the Manual

This manual describes the Mesh Mat underfloor heating system and how to design the layout of heating mat, select the product, and install the system. It is important to thoroughly review this manual and the Thermostat Installation and Operation Manual prior to installation.

For additional information regarding any aspect of the heating mat system, please contact your supplier.

! IMPORTANT

For the Radical Heating Solutions warranty and agency approvals to apply, the instructions that are included in this manual and product packages must be followed.

1.2 25-year Limited Warranty

The floor heating system standard limited warranty is 25 years from the date of purchase. The warranty will only be valid if the warranty document enclosed with the product is correctly filled in and returned to the address shown on the warranty document.

2. Heating Cable System

2.1 System Description

The heating cable system is design for installation into thin adhesive beds, levelling compounds or thin screed beds beneath tiled and wooden floor finish.

The system includes a reel of blue heating cable, that can be set out to provide a heat output that suits the requirements of the room. At a cable distance of 80mm will provide a heating output of 150 Watt/m². Other spacing distances will provide varying heat outputs. For further information on setting out distances contact your product supplier.

The cold lead is a black non-heating cable that runs in to the wall and connects the system to the thermostat.

The thermostat is not included with the mat. For recommended thermostat requirements please refer to Section 6.

Heating Cable:

Cable Construction:	Dual Heaters
Heaters:	CuNi, TR and NiCr
Insulation:	Fluoropolymer
Shield:	Aluminum Foil
Grounding Wire:	Tinned Copper Wires
Jacket:	PVC
Power Output:	12 W/m
Resistance Tolerance:	+10/-5 %

Cold Lead:

Conductor:	3
Length:	2.5m
Colour:	Black

Mat:

Colour:	All
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2.2 Product Specification

Product technical parameters are listed in the following table,

Items	Data
Operating Voltage:	230 Vac
Power Output:	12 W/m nominal
Minimum Bending Radius	6 times of the OD, 30 mm
Cable Spacing:	80 mm
Maximum Ambient Temperature:	30°C
Minimum Installation Temperature:	5°C

2.3 Product Types

Product Code scheme: RADEC means Radical Electric Loose Cable xx - xx determines the output per metre – 12 = 12W/m

CODE	COIL LENGTH	POWER	Rated Voltage/VAC	Resistance (Ohms)
	M	W		(-5% to +10%)
RADEC12W1250	12.50	150	230	352.67
RADEC12W1875	18.75	225	230	235.11
RADEC12W2500	25.00	300	230	176.33
RADEC12W3125	31.25	375	230	141.07
RADEC12W3750	37.50	450	230	117.56
RADEC12W4375	43.75	525	230	100.76
RADEC12W5000	50.00	600	230	88.17
RADEC12W5625	56.25	675	230	78.37
RADEC12W6250	62.50	750	230	70.53
RADEC12W7500	75.00	900	230	58.78
RADEC12W8750	87.50	1050	230	50.38
RADEC12W10000	100.00	1200	230	44.08
RADEC12W11250	112.50	1350	230	39.19
RADEC12W12500	125.00	1500	230	35.27
RADEC12W15000	150.00	1800	230	29.39

3. Floor Heating Design and Product Selection

3.1 Design the Installation

> Step 1: Confirm the power supply voltage.

Rated supply power voltage includes 230Vac.

> Step 2: Measure the heated area

Determine the area of the floor to be heated. The heated area is the area of the floor where there are no permanent fixtures or furniture such as showers, toilets, vanities, or cabinets. It is recommended that a distance of 50mm be maintained from the edge of the room wall and the heating cable as this allows space for any radiator pipes and other types of obstructions.

> Step3: Plan the design

Determine the optimum floor heating mat layout for your heated area to ensure adequate coverage. Select a location for the thermostat on the wall above the heated area where it can reach the 2.5m cold lead on the heated cable, and the 3.0m floor temperature sensor. Thermostats provided by Radical Heating Solutions are supplied with a 3.0m sensor cable. Other suppliers/manufacturers may offer different cable lengths.

! IMPORTANT

The predetermined cable spacing must be maintained to ensure correct floor heating. Do not change the heating cable spacing when you lay out the cable, failure to adhere to this may result in the floor having cold spots.

3.2 Electrical Installation

WARNING

The electrical installation must be done by a qualified electrician familiar with generally accepted construction techniques and safe electrical practices.

The installation must comply with the 18th Edition IET Wiring Regulations (BS 7671:2018) and subsequent amendments. All new electrical installations will need to comply with BS 7671:2018. If you are unfamiliar with these requirements, contact a qualified and authorised electrician. This is very important to avoid any risk during the installation and using the system.

Step 1: Confirm the power supply voltage

The heating cable must be connected to an appropriately sized electrical circuit. Confirm the power supply is 230Vac first. All the heating cables as shown in the table in section 2 can be connected to a 13amp RCD/Spur unit and controlled by a Thermostat with a 16A load connection.

If multiple cables are required for the room to be heated, and the load exceeds 13 Amps, then a suitable current rated contactor must be used. Where this occurs then seek the advice/service of a qualified electrician.

Step 2: Determine the maximum circuit area for the cable

Determine the area of the floor to be heated. The heated area is the area of the floor where there are no permanent fixtures or furniture such as, showers, toilets, vanities, or cabinets. It is recommended that a 50mm gap from all perimeter walls/skirtings to the Mat be maintained.

Step 3: Install electrical junction box

Install the Junction box for the thermostat at a suitable height, usually 1.5m above the floor and within reach of the cold lead and the floor temperature sensor typically.

Step 4: Chase the wall from the thermostat and connection box

Chase the floor under the electrical junction box location, you will use this to route the cold lead and the temperature sensor wire to the electrical junction box.

3.3 Confirm Product Selection

Recheck the voltage, heated area and layout. Ensure the cable you have is correct for your application. Confirm that your heating cable is not longer than required for the area to be heated. If you have any questions, please contact your supplier.

4. Installation

4.1 Tools and Materials preparation

You will require the following items to install and test the underfloor heating system:

- Scissors
- Utility knife
- Cable cutter/strippers
- Tape measure
- Screwdriver
- Multimeter

You will also need the appropriate tools and materials to install your final floor covering. These will likely include products like self-levelling mortar, thin-set mortar, insulation board, backer board, tiles, notched trowel, and any other tools for your specific floor.

Follow these steps to ensure a successful Heating Mat installation.

Prior to any installation, consideration should be given to employing a qualified and experienced trades person. This will ensure the Heating Mat is installed correctly in accordance with Building and Electrical regulations. Our warranty does require confirmation that the Heating Installation has been tested and an industry recognised test certificate prepared by a qualified Electrician.

4.2 Installation Step by Step

Step 1: Plan Layout

Make a sketch layout or floor plan of the room. Include all permanent furnishings such as toilets, bathtubs, appliances, cabinetry, etc. The first step is to calculate the area coverage for the heating cable required. Although 100% coverage is achievable, we would recommend allowing a border of 50mm around the edge of the room. Calculate the internal dimensions (skirting board to skirting board) of your room and deduct 50mm from these. Using these amended dimensions, sketch out a diagram of your room and calculate the total area. Indicate all dimensions required to determine the available floor area and the position of the thermostat. We would recommend spending ten minutes sketching this out as it can save you a lot of time during the installation process if you have a plan.

! IMPORTANT

Radical Heating Solutions recommends that the installation be documented with photos to note the location of connections and the sensor.

Step 2: Transfer layout to floor

Draw an outline of the layout on the room floor including a foot print of all furnishings that are not yet installed. Unroll the first section of the heating cable. The starting point of the cable must be placed within 2.5m from the thermostat.

! IMPORTANT

Mark the position of the connection point between the power lead and the heating cable. This connection must be concealed in thin set or self-levelling cement. When using a floor temperature sensing thermostat, mark the sensor position in the middle of 2 heating cables, about 25cm away from the wall (within the heated area), and as close as possible to the thermostat.

Step 3: Install the thermostat

If using a floor temperature sensing thermostat, install the sensor now, either in a 16mm flexible conduit or directly to the subfloor. It is recommended that the sensor be installed in conduit. This will allow the sensor to be easily replaced in the unlikely event of failure.

The sensor and/or conduit needs to be installed between the thermostat wall box and the sensor position. The conduit tube must be partially countersunk into the sub-floor.

Cut a channel approximately 2cm deep by 2cm wide in the floor and wall, up to the thermostat for the sensor conduit. The conduit must go from the thermostat, a minimum of 25cm away from the wall, towards the middle of the floor.

! IMPORTANT

The sensor conduit must be centred in the cable loop (between two heating wires).

Use duct tape to close the end of the conduit so that thin set can't penetrate the conduit.

Use duct tape to hold the sensor conduit into the groove to prevent it from floating up when the mortar or thin set is poured.

If the sensor is installed directly in the mortar bed, use duct tape to secure to sub-floor.

Step 4: Prepare the installation

Clean and vacuum the floor thoroughly and remove dust and debris from the floor that may damage the heating cable. Ensure that the subfloor is secure and stable. Carefully fill in all cracks to prevent any potential damage to the new tiles resulting from movement in the subfloor.

Step 5: Measure the heating cable resistance

Use a digital ohmmeter to measure the resistance of the heating cable and compare it to the table in section 2.3 (Products Types), and record the measured resistance on the warranty card.

Documenting the resistance at each stage of installation is required for warranty Purposes. Also, measure the resistance between the brown, blue and ground wire. Both should read +200M ohms.

Please refer to "Commissioning" for instructions on how to measure the resistance.

Step 6: Lay the heating cable

Start by placing the cable so that the connection point and the temperature sensor are in their intended positions and bring the power cable to the thermostat or connection box.

Begin unrolling the Heating cable evenly across the floor outside the areas that you marked previously. Ensure that the Heating cable is in full contact with the subfloor at all times.

Avoid walking on the heating cable, if this is not possible use shoes with soft soles.

When approaching obstacles (toilets, cabinets, etc), carefully lead the cable around the obstacle.

Remember to never cut the cable. Use a thin strip of tape to secure the loose cable to the floor.

It is highly recommended to take photos of the installed Heating cable before installing the flooring. Measure the heating cable resistance once the heating cable installation is complete. The readings must be identical to those readings taken before installation commenced. If there is a difference, then the cable has been damaged during installation and needs to be replaced.

! IMPORTANT

NEVER CUT OR SHORTEN THE HEATING CABLE!

Step 7: Install the floor covering

! IMPORTANT

ENSURE THAT THE SENSOR CONDUIT HAS BEEN PROPERLY INSTALLED BEFORE PROCEEDING.

If tiling, proceed with the installation of the tiles by covering the heating cables with a layer of thin-set cement as directed by the tile manufacturer. Ensure that the thin-set cement covers the entire height of the heating cable as the tiles are installed.

In the case of a wood, engineered or laminate floor covering, it is recommended that the flooring manufacturer be contacted. For wooden floors, a minimum of 5cm self-levelling cement over the

heating cable is recommended. Ensure that all moisture in the self-levelling cement has been fully eliminated in accordance with the drying times recommended by the manufacturer (consult the manufacturer for exact drying time). Test resistance as described in section 5 of this manual and record.

! IMPORTANT

The system must not be turned on until the thin-set cement has fully dried. A minimum of two weeks is recommended.

Step 8: Tiling

To fit the tile, apply a layer of acrylic or latex modified thin-set using the ridged side of your trowel. Tile and grout the floor using current industry practices and in accordance with instructions provided by the manufacturer of the tile.

Step 9: Connect the power wires to thermostat

The connection of the power supply and the thermostat must be done by a qualified electrician. The electrician should connect the floor sensor to the thermostat, take the final resistance reading and record it on the warranty card.

Note:

You need to mark the appropriate circuit breaker reference label indicating which branch circuit supplies the circuits to the electric space heating cables.

Test resistance as described in section 5 of this manual and record.

Step 10: Record information and affix labels

It is important for the warranty document to be sent, immediately after installing the system (both the cable and thermostat).

The warranty is subject to the guarantee conditions listed on the warranty certificate. Please keep a copy of the warranty document for your reference.

Step 11: Enjoy the comfortable warmth of your heating cable

The Heating cable system is now ready to use. Increase the floor temperature gradually and adjust it until it reaches a comfortable level depending on the type of room and your personal preference.

! IMPORTANT

For the 25 year limited warranty to apply, you must perform these tests, record the results the on the warranty document, and retain a copy of the record. You must perform the insulation resistance test, the heating cable resistance test, and the sensor resistance test four times (Please refer to section 4 installation) during the installation process.

5. Important tests to run and record

5.1 Insulation Resistance Test

This test ensures that the insulating jackets of the mat are not damaged. A low value indicates the cable has been damaged and must be replaced.

Connect the ground wire to the black lead and both power wires to the red lead of the multimeter.

Measure the insulation resistance.

Record these readings on the warranty card.

5.2 Heating Cable Resistance Test

This test measures the resistance of the heating mat and is used to determine circuit integrity.

Set multimeter to the 200 or 2000 ohm range. Connect the multimeter leads to the brown and blue cold lead wires

The value should be within -5% to + 10% of table in section 2.3.

Record these readings on the warranty card.

5.3 Sensor Resistance Test

This test measures the resistance of the floor sensor and is used to verify the sensor integrity.

Set multimeter to the 200K ohm range.

Connect the mutimeter leads to the sensor lead wires.

Make sure the meter reads between 9-25K ohms. Record these readings on the warranty card.

6. Thermostat Guide

6.1 Recommended Thermostat's Technical

Class A, 5-mA GFCI is required

Supply Voltage: 230Vac,50Hz

Maximum Switching Circuit: 16A

Ambient Set point Range: 5-30 deg. C

Floor Limit Set point Range: 5-40 deg. C

Floor Set point Range: 5-40 deg.C. *

Floor Temperature Sensor: 2-wire, 2.5m or longer lead wires

Floor Set point Range:

*For wooden floor installations, the maximum set point temperature should be 28 deg. C unless specified otherwise by the flooring supplier/manufacturer.

7. Troubleshooting

Symptom	Probable Causes	Corrective Action
Floor is not warm	No voltage	Check circuit breaker
	Circuit breaker tripped	Ensure that there are not too many mats or other appliances connected on the same circuit. The Heating mat may require a dedicated circuit
	Ground-fault tripped in the thermostat	Refer to Thermostat Installation and Operation Manual
	Thermostat not turned on	Refer to the thermostat Installation and operation Manual
	Cable not connected to thermostat	Refer to the thermostat Installation and operation Manual
Floor is always warm	Floor temperature sensor not connected	Refer to the thermostat Installation and operation Manual
	Clock not set correctly	Refer to the thermostat Installation and operation Manual

Floor is not warm enough	Thermostat not programmed correctly	Refer to the thermostat Installation and operation Manual
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Warranty

For a period of 25 years from the date of purchase Radical Heating Solutions warrants that the heating cable is free from defects in material, design and workmanship, The extended warranty is only valid if the warranty document has been properly completed and posted, and the installation is in accordance with the installation instructions.

The defective heating cable must be inspected by or submitted to Radical Heating Solutions or an authorized heating cable dealer. Failure to comply with all of the foregoing, will void this extended warranty. Radical Heating Solutions will, when the customer has documented that a defect in the Heating mat was present at the date of delivery, repair or supply a new heating cable at Radical Heating Solutions discretion. All claims shall be made within the extended warranty period. Radical Heating Solutions shall not be liable for any claims made later than 25 years from date of purchase.

Radical Heating Solutions shall not be liable for any consequential and secondary costs or damages linked to the defect or replacement of the Heating cable. Radical Heating Solutions will be liable for any costs related to the dismantling of defective product and the installation of a new product; however, such liability is limited to the amount of five times the initial product costs for each damage/case.

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How to claim this warranty

Contact the company's Customer Service department and provide the following information:

- 1) Nature of the manufacturing defect
- 2) Date of purchase and, if already installed, date of installation
- 3) If installed, name of electrician and flooring installer
- 4) Resistance readings taken by installer
- 5) Proof of purchase and serial number from product label

Our Customers Services department will provide you with an authorisation number and advise you on the next steps to complete your warranty claim.

Disclaimer:

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