An introduction to wet underfloor heating

Warmafloor (GB) Ltd
www.warmafloor.co.uk

• What is wet underfloor heating?
Warm water is circulated through a series of pipes laid in the floor at the time of construction. These pipes form a continuous loop between two central manifolds. Each room has its own circuit and is individually controlled putting the heat exactly where you want it.

• Why choose underfloor heating?
Because underfloor heating runs at a lower temperature than radiators, around 45°C, you'll benefit from reduced running costs and higher efficiency. In fact you could see a 15-40% reduction in running costs.

Unlike radiators there are no high temperature surfaces or sharp edges which can cause injury.

The low floor surface temperature (around 27°C) results in an extremely comfortable, luxurious environment that is completely safe.

• Why is underfloor heating better than a radiator system?
One of the main advantages of underfloor heating is that it eliminates the design drawbacks of radiators. Once they are fixed to the walls they cannot be moved, therefore limiting where you can place furniture around a room.

• Is it economical to run?
Yes, users enjoy savings of up to 20% for domestic projects and up to 50% for commercial ones.

• Is underfloor heating more expensive than radiators to install?
Underfloor heating is generally more expensive to install. However, bearing in mind the lower running costs, higher comfort and added value to the building, the initial expense is more than justified.

• Can I still have an underfloor heating system installed if my build is at an advanced construction stage?
Yes, this can be done, depending on your floor construction. For suspended timber floors where your floor levels are already set (preventing you from laying the pipes on top of your joists), you can install the pipes in-between.

• Can I have underfloor heating in my conservatory or extension?
Conservatories are an ideal situation for an underfloor heating system since the nature of construction usually leaves very little wall space to install a radiator. Likewise, most conservatories have large glass windows that, even when double glazed, can lead to very cold rooms. Underfloor heating warms the conservatory gradually from beneath making them useable rooms all year round.

• Is underfloor heating suitable for old buildings or restorations?
Underfloor heating is ideal for this type of project. You will have to either lift the floorboards or raise the floors in height slightly to accommodate the pipes and insulation.

• Is the system on all the time?
To function properly, the underfloor heating system must be able to fire the boiler at any time within a 24-hour period, but it will only do this if a room requires heat. Controls allow you to choose when you want your heating on, off or set-back (reduced temperature setting)