Carlisle Wide Plank Floors and Radiant Heat: A Stable Relationship

**Why Radiant Heat & Wide Plank Floors**

The entire design of your home rests on your floors, literally; this is especially true when you combine radiant heat and wide plank floors. In fact, you can dramatically improve the overall look, comfort, and health of your home when you use them together.

Radiant heat is more efficient, virtually silent, and eliminates forced air allergens and unsightly registers/radiators. It also has less fluctuation in relative humidity when compared to other heating systems, which makes it an ideal partner for wide plank floors.

Carlisle wide plank floors help create a cleaner, more beautiful home with a unique design aesthetic that cannot be achieved with narrow widths, or mass produced floors. They also create a timeless architectural element that could last for the life of your home.

**5 Million And Counting**

It is a common misconception that you cannot use wide plank floors together with radiant heat. But over the last 10 years, more than 5 million square feet of Carlisle flooring has been installed over radiant heat. Carlisle floors have also been specifically recommended by Warmboard®, which manufactures one of the easiest and most popular radiant heat systems available today.

**The Carlisle Advantage**

With proper installation, and appropriate environmental controls, Carlisle wide plank floors remain flat and stable over radiant heat. Superior quality and performance means they outperform other wood flooring solutions on the market so you never have to compromise your wood floor design for your heating system.
Carlisle floors provide the following benefits:

To Improve Stability and Performance over Radiant heat, Carlisle floors provide the following benefits:

- All boards are cut from the center of bigger, better trees, maximizing the heartwood and straight, vertical grain, in each board.
- Selectively harvested from climates where each species grows best. For example, Red Oak grows from Maine to Minnesota and from Florida to Texas. Northern Grown Oak is exposed to better soil conditions and slower growing conditions so trees grow slow and get bigger over a longer period of time. This creates more heartwood in the tree, and a tighter grain structure. These boards will be far superior to Southern grown Red Oak which grows faster, so it does not develop any heartwood and minimal vertical grain.
- Each floor made to order using our exclusively Slowcraft™ process, which allows Carlisle craftsmen to interact with every square inch of the floor, and provide the best quality control in the industry.
- All flooring material is air dried 3-12 months, depending on species, and kiln dried by order. This will slowly reduce the moisture in the boards and provide consistent moisture content throughout the entire floor.
- Carlisle has developed proprietary grades which exceed the standards of common lumber grades.
- All flooring is crafted with a tongue and groove edge and the best milling tolerances in the industry for a precise fit.
- Solid wood floors crafted with stress reliefs for added stability.
- Engineered wood floors are constructed in a way that does not require stress reliefs, but are equally stable.

What our customers have to say:

**Gary Brennan, New England Custom Floor Crafters, Chicopee, MA:**

“Carlisle’s wood quality, installation knowledge, finishing expertise and customer service are the best I’ve worked with. When installed over radiant heat, their boards go in easily and remain stable for generations.”

**Shawn Sweeney, Sweeney Design Build, VT:**

“I’ve been designing and building high-end homes in northern Vermont for over 10 years and most include radiant heat. I recommend Carlisle wide plank floors to all my clients, due to the stability of their wood over such a wide range of installation conditions and temperatures. Especially for radiant applications, their wood is far superior to any other wood floor (wide or narrow) on the market.”

**The Gardners, Santa Cruz, CA**

“The radiant heat works extremely well with our Carlisle Wide Plank Floors. Our hickory floors are beautiful and warm, and we hardly notice that the heat is on— it’s so consistent and quiet.”
Installing Wide Plank Floors over Radiant Heat

There is no single installation method that is used, or required, for wide plank floors and radiant heat. The installation will depend on conditions unique to your job site, your radiant heat system and the Carlisle floors you chose for your home.

The following information can provide you with some general guidelines:

• The radiant heat system should be installed and operational prior to acclimation and installation of your new floors.
• All wood flooring should be properly acclimated to the environment in which it will be installed.
• If your radiant heat system includes concrete and/or gypcrete you must make sure it is 100% cured prior to acclimation and installation. Your installer should use the proper moisture cure test to verify this.
• Your wood floor should be installed using either blind nail and glue or direct glue down to the subfloor.
• Plan for the seasonal adjustment of your radiant heat system throughout the year.
• Not all subfloors (i.e. gypcrete) allow for a direct glue down installation, verify these restrictions with your hardwood flooring installer.

Carlisle wide plank floors can be installed over a variety of radiant heat systems. While you are not limited to using any one of these radiant heat systems, your architect and/or heating professional can help you determine the best radiant heat system for your project.

The following are examples of some of the most common systems:

![Plywood Over Concrete](image1)
![Warmboard](image2)
![Plywood over joists](image3)

![Plywood Over Sleeps & Concrete/Gypcrete](image4)
![Radiant Heat Tubes In Plywood](image5)

Warmboard, Inc:

“We have worked with Carlisle many times over the years. They are professional, personable and extremely knowledgeable. They have taught us a great deal about hardwood and the flooring industry. Our team members have worked with Carlisle side-by-side on projects all across the country, and we are continually impressed with them not only as dedicated professionals, but as all around great people. And their products are second to none.”

www.warmboard.com

To download more information and watch informational and instructional videos about installing Carlisle wood floors over radiant heat, visit us online at www.wideplankflooring.com/radiant-heat.