

## Creating A Sustainable Future: Underfloor Heating Vs Radiator Systems

Despite the huge emphasis placed on climate change and reducing the carbon footprint of the UK, conserving energy within our homes is often a missed area of focus. By making our homes more energy efficient we are helping the environment. A large proportion of this, especially here in the temperate UK, could be achieved by choosing smarter and more efficient ways to heat our homes. If you are considering a new heating system, you have probably contemplated both methods. However, which is the most environmentally friendly? Which is the most economical? What system is most worth the investment?

For as long as I can remember, underfloor heating (UFH) has been considered to be a luxury product. However, it is now being recognised as a significant energy efficient investment. The majority of UK homeowners are still heating their homes with traditional radiator systems, which were introduced in the 1930's. This system which hasn't changed much over the past eight decades and is increasingly earning a reputation for being inefficient on energy usage therefore costly to run. UFH is being highly advocated by many suppliers and heating experts in the industry, as the most effective heating system designed to reduce the cost of heating a home. It provides several benefits and is much more environmentally friendly than other options on the market.

### **BENEFITS FOR THE HOME OWNER**

UFH produces radiant heat via thermal surfaces, maintaining natural humidity, clean and less polluted air quality, and desired comfort. Radiator systems use heat convection, heated air rises to the ceiling and as it cools it falls down to be reheated by the radiator again, this recycled air creates hot and cold 'spots' in a room and re-circulates dust, germs and pollen. Radiators also emit lots of moisture which can lead to poor air quality and mould or damp developing. As a result, people will open windows to improve ventilation, this is highly counter productive, whilst we try to re-establish comfort all of the heat escapes resulting in expensive energy wastage.

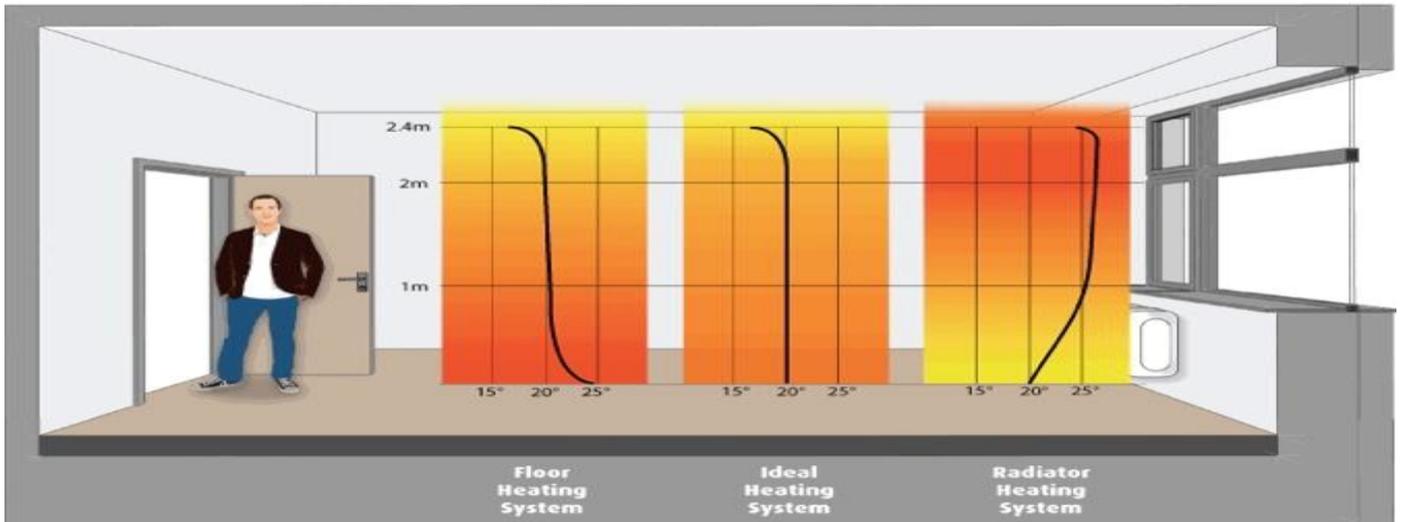
*'Overheating a room by just 1-c can increase fuel costs by 8-10%' (The Carbon Trust).*

UFH operates at a lower temperature due to the large surface area when compared to standard radiator systems, therefore reducing costs with less energy being expended. UFH efficiently regulates heat in a larger space and disperses heat evenly, maintaining comfortable temperatures. Radiator systems are prone to 'cold spots' as heat primarily stays close by the radiator completely missing the desired area in which it is needed.



Radiator systems need regular maintenance, valves often leak, thermostat controls can get stuck, trapped air constantly needs to be removed and can often generate loud noises as the air trapped in the boiler or pipes prohibits circulation. Radiators and pipes are bulky taking up valuable living space within the home. With UFH these issues would be a thing of the past, thermostats can be changed and controlled remotely, the robust and safe system simply works with ease out of sight.

UFH and radiators distribute heat very differently, the illustration below compares consistent floor heating against the uneven heat distribution from a radiator system, the 'cold spots' generated by radiators can clearly be seen.



## BENEFITS TO THE ENVIRONMENT

The environmental effectiveness of your heating system can also be determined by several external factors. For example, how well your home is insulated, how old your boiler is, and the quality of the windows and doors. All of these can influence how much heat is lost from your home and how much energy is consumed. UFH is an integral part of the green revolution in contemporary heating solutions, in fact according to industry experts, in order to future proof your home for greater sustainability UFH is **the** optimal heating choice, it can operate with ground or air source heat pumps.

Radiator systems tend to heat up the entire building at once based on a central thermostat. UFH supplies zone heating, enabling desired rooms to be set to varied comfortable temperatures, reducing energy waste and cost. Installing UFH will certainly make your home more eco friendly because it reduces energy consumption by **operating at lower temperatures, distributing heat evenly which successfully retains and maintains heat, enables home heating with accurate zone efficiency**. Not only does UFH help to save the environment, it is a convenient, clean, cost effective and energy efficient heating system.

## GOVERNMENT INCENTIVE

In a bid to encourage homeowners and landlords to update their homes with eco-friendly and cost efficient enhancements, the UK Government are currently offering a new 'Green Homes Grant Scheme' towards the cost of installing energy efficient improvements to homes. These energy efficient encouraged 'green' home improvements, such as UFH, are proven to reduce your energy bills by 50% or more per year. The grant will fund up to two thirds of the cost for eco friendly, energy efficient installations, such as UFH, making this a perfect time to consider all of the benefits it provides.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

E. Tupling are committed to reducing our carbon footprint and environmental impact, both through our own operating methods and business strategy, but also by choosing supplier and distribution partners whom have equal values and vision to maximise environmental sustainability.

**Our UFH product range is distributed purely to our Building and Plumbing Merchant Partners.** If you are a homeowner or end-user, please feel free to contact us and we can connect you to one of our reputable merchants.

**If you are a merchant, why not call us today for a free no obligation consultation!** Merchant counters are busy enough, you may not have the time to design and sell UFH within your branch, you may lack the expertise in designing UFH systems for your customers... Let us take the load off! E Tupling will liaise with your customer on your behalf, we will provide the best UFH system tailored to your customers' needs, BUT we will only ever discuss prices with you... we only deal directly with our merchant partners.

**Exceeding our merchant customers' expectations is the reason we get out of bed in the morning! We strive to achieve customer service excellence. Honesty, Loyalty, and Customer Satisfaction are at the heart of our Company Values. Call us today, we are experts in underfloor heating but don't just take our word for it, [read what our customers say about us!](#)**

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