

# National Oak Flooring Manufacturers' Association INC.



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## Strip Oak Flooring Over Concrete Slabs

with

### RADIANT HEAT

Without impairing the efficiency of the heating plant, Strip Oak Flooring may be installed over concrete slabs in which radiant heating pipes are embedded, slightly higher water temperatures may be required. Boiler temperature should be controlled to limit the temperature of the slab surface to about 85 degrees, an acceptable level for most mastics.

Also, to anticipate rapid changes in temperature an outside thermostat should be installed.

It is first important that proper concrete slab construction be employed. There are varying specifications, but precautions must be taken to prevent the absorption of ground moisture through the concrete during the non-heating season. It is well to provide a gravel fill beneath the slab, preferably of washed gravel and a vapor of a 6 mil polyethylene membrane between the slab and the fill.

The flooring is installed as in any other slab project, (See "Installing Hardwood Flooring - Installation Manual"). EXCEPT do not fasten plywood to concrete with either nails or powder-actuated fasteners.

Turn on the heating system for at least 4-5 days prior to delivery of the flooring in order to drive the excessive moisture out of the slab. Perform a moisture test on the slab before proceeding with installation (See "Installing Hardwood Flooring - Installation Manual").

Allow flooring to become acclimated to the environment for four to five days and then install by the recommended slab method.

(NOTE: Check flooring and mastic manufacturers' specifications for suitability of use over radiant heat.)

Regular types of finishing methods are then employed.