

## Episode 4 | Running your Underfloor Heating

Thermogroup is running a Q&A Panel where we answer questions directly from our clients. The fourth episode covers questions regarding the running of underfloor heating. View the episode at: <http://bit.ly/TGQA19>

### What temperature will my underfloor heating get up to and can I set different temperatures?

When we talk about Underfloor Heating temperature's we refer to the temperature of the floor finish rather than the actual cable. The regulations in Australia is that the max floor temperature the floor heating can operate at is 28°C. This is controlled with the use of a Thermostat, so you can set when the heating is running but also the temperature which this heating runs at.

Most people typically run the heating at around 22-24°C so below the maximum, and this provides a comfort and efficient level of heat. Running the heating at a higher temperature can make the area stuffy and be expensive to run.

### How do I turn my underfloor heating on and off?

You will need a Thermostat to operate the underfloor heating. The thermostat allows for turning the heating on and off and setting a temperature the heating operates at. Without a thermostat you cannot stop the temperature from going above the regulations, as above.

The thermostat not only allows the heating to be switched on and off but allows you to program the thermostat so it comes on automatically ensuring the room is warm when you need it and then switches off to ensure power is not wasted. The thermostat is an essential part of the overall system and allows you complete freedom and control of your heating.

### Will underfloor heating stop mildew completely?

The honest answer is no. We cannot 100% guarantee no mildew as it depends on a number of factors. This includes how long the underfloor heating is on for and the condition of the grout and bathroom etc. What we can say is that the most efficient way to prevent mildew growth in a bathroom is to keep the areas dry and moisture free and that underfloor heating will help with this as it ensures the floor dries out.

This is one of the main reasons that underfloor heating is run into showers and on shower walls as this helps to dry out the shower. So, although we cannot guarantee, underfloor heating is definitely a very effective way on minimizing mildew growth.

### Is underfloor heating cheaper to run and more efficient than radiators?

There are two main points to consider, both the efficiency and then the cost. On efficiency, Underfloor Heating is spread across the entire floor space as opposed to coming from a single heat source. Underfloor heating gives you a much better heat spread and consistency than a radiator. As the entire floor is warm and it is heating from the ground up it means in terms of how the room is heated, underfloor heating is more efficient and a more comfortable heat.

In relation to costs, there are a number of factors to consider. A lot has to do with how the radiator is heated, whether that be gas, electric or hydronic and what the cost is for that resource. Typically for larger rooms you will need a number of radiators to try and heat the room, or a very large radiator that is very hot. As the radiators don't have the same spread across the room, these will typically need to run for longer and at a higher temperature. So based on these factors and the points on efficiency, radiators are going to cost more to run.