



Installing Carpet Over Warmboard

Warmboard is the most efficient radiant system available. Specifically, that means that you will get high heat output with relatively low water temperatures. This makes Warmboard particularly well suited to application of carpet of virtually any type without the limitations that may have been true in the past for lower efficiency radiant systems.

Applying carpet to Warmboard is accomplished in exactly the same manner as any carpet installation on any conventional subfloor. Carpet tack strips are nailed directly to the Warmboard panels while taking care to avoid driving a tack strip nail into the visible tubes. Where there are grooves that are not used, fill the empty grooves using thin set or equivalent. Another option is to cut pieces of pex tubing from the scrap pile and nail them into the empty grooves. This will provide an even surface for the carpet pad.

In general, all radiant systems work best with a slab foam rubber carpet pad (sfrp) and Warmboard is no exception. We highly recommend use of such a pad with Warmboard. Apart from having excellent heat transfer characteristics, SFRP is a superior cushion for your carpet. Typically 1/4" SFRP feels better than a 3/8" rebond pad and a 3/8" feels better than 1/2" rebond pad. There is one manufacturer of slab foam rubber pad in the US. If you contact them using the information below, they will be happy to give you the location of a distributor in your area.

For other carpet cushion options review Group Two on page 21.

Sponge Cushion

902 Armstrong Street,

P.O. Box 709

Morris, IL 60450

Tel:1-800-435-4062

Fax: 800-423-3557

<http://www.sponge-cushion.com>



Carpet and Padding R-Values

<i>Carpet Thickness</i>	<i>R-Value</i>
1/8"	R-0.6
1/4"	R-1.0
1/2"	R-1.4
3/4"	R-1.8
1"	R-2.2

Cushion R-Values

Group One -

<i>Cushion</i>	<i>Density</i>	<i>Thickness</i>	<i>R-Value</i>	
<i>Prime Urethane</i>	<i>2.2 lb/cu ft</i>	<i>1/4"</i>	<i>R-1.08</i>	Not Recommended
		<i>3/8"</i>	<i>R-1.62</i>	
		<i>1/2"</i>	<i>R-2.15</i>	
<i>Banded Urethane</i>	<i>4-8 lb/cu ft</i>	<i>1/4"</i>	<i>R-1.05</i>	Not Recommended
		<i>3/8"</i>	<i>R-1.57</i>	
		<i>1/2"</i>	<i>R-2.09</i>	

Group Two -

<i>Cushion</i>	<i>Density</i>	<i>Thickness</i>	<i>R-Value</i>	
<i>Fiber/Hair/Jute</i>	<i>6-8 lb/cu ft</i>	<i>1/4"</i>	<i>R-0.97</i>	3rd Choice
		<i>3/8"</i>	<i>R-1.46</i>	
		<i>1/2"</i>	<i>R-1.94</i>	
<i>Waffle Rubber</i>	<i>25 lb/cu ft</i>	<i>1/4"</i>	<i>R-0.62</i>	2nd Choice
		<i>3/8"</i>	<i>R-1.00</i>	
		<i>1/2"</i>	<i>R-1.33</i>	
<i>Slab Foam Rubber</i>	<i>33 lb/cu ft</i>	<i>1/4"</i>	<i>R-0.31</i>	Best Choice
		<i>3/8"</i>	<i>R-0.47</i>	
		<i>1/2"</i>	<i>R-0.62</i>	

Note: All R-Values listed are approximate. Check with product manufacturer for actual R-Values.