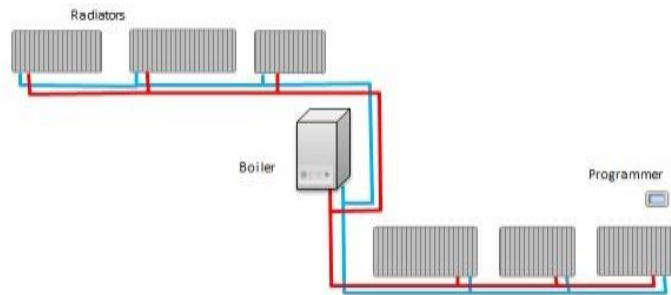


Radiator systems, Flow & Return or Manifold

Radiator systems

are an exceptionally effective form of heating. Traditionally a flow and return system is adopted as the means of distribution.

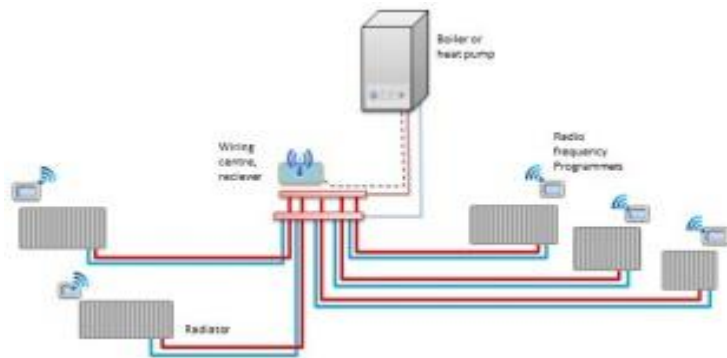


With a flow and return based system a single programmer is provided to control the on and off periods for the entire system, in some cases the system may be split to two flow and return circuits say upstairs and down, each with its own programmer.

The programmer also sets the optimum temperature at the point of the control (typically in the main living area). Beyond this each individual radiator usually has thermostatic control head to help provide a controlled comfort setting.

Manifolded systems

With manifold distribution each radiator has its own supply and return from a central manifold, thus zone or room by room control is easily achieved. Manifolded systems are widely used in North America & Scandinavian countries. A manifold offers the user extremely high levels of control over both time and temperature on a Zone or room by room basis, and consequently Provides a more energy efficient system.



The cost difference in terms of capital outlay is usually in the region of about \$400 to 600 on the cost of an average size system which can easily be gained in energy savings over just two winter seasons.

A manifold system is highly advantageous when a heat pump is the heat source as this allows peak load to be softened out through time scheduling the various zones/rooms, resulting in greater system efficiency.