CONTROLS Types of central heating controls

What type of controls to have with your central heating system is an important question for an installer to discuss with the home owner.

For most, simple controls that are easy to use are the most important thing. All controls require some level of learning for the end user, so an understanding of how practical the customer is, can be a good indicator of the level to go for.

Due to the nature of most underfloor systems providing constant gentle background heat over the heating season, a single analogue (dial) thermostat with floor probe is the most practical option. This is a proven balance between comfort and running cost and rarely needs to be adjusted. The CHWAT is ideal for fit and forget customers or those who prefer less involvement. It senses air temperature but also maintains a minimum floor temperature setting.

This simple control can be upgraded to the CHWDT which has a digital LCD screen. It also has the ability to program a setback or reduced temperature for a period. It also controls the air temperature as well as the minimum floor temperature. This control is also suitable for a radiator system where programming times and temperatures is required. The floor probe function would be disabled with a radiator system. A battery version, CHPRTB, is also available as this suits retrofit radiator installations.

As a further option, a digital WiFi thermostat could be used to enable control of the heating sistem from a smart phone (CHWIFI). However, as mentioned, underfloor heating needs little adjustment once it is operating but its fine for radiator installations . WiFi thermostats are ideal for holiday homes allowing the system to be started/turned up prior to arriving.

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Multizone Control

If individual zone control is desired for underfloor heating, multiple analogue, digital or WIFI thermostats can be used. We would recommend as few as possible for ease of convenience. For multiple radiator zones, a programmable thermostat per zone is required.

