Roof tile has been a major component of building throughout history, from Neolithic China as early as 10,000 B.C. to present day. Travel anywhere throughout Europe, the Middle East, South America, and you’ll find beautiful tile roofs that have lasted the test of time. Tile roofs can be found in almost any climate or region and can withstand some of the most hazardous weather conditions—often outlasting the very building they protect. That protection is what makes tile one of the most appealing alternatives to roofing materials. Its color and design can be tailored for any style of home; its safety provides the "peace of mind" and comfort for homeowners; and its durability enables manufacturers to offer some of the longest warranties in the roofing industry.
When most people think of a tile roof, often the traditional Mediterranean style comes to mind. While the look is beautiful, red-and-round is not your only option when choosing a roof. Concrete and clay tile roofs are as unique as the house or building they cover and are offered in a variety of colors, blends, finishes, shapes and styles to help accentuate an individual's look. Tile provides the beauty and look you want and the durability you need. People want their homes to represent a personality, so why not start with the exterior of the home?

- Architectural style choices
- Color & shape possibilities
- Unique style to set apart your home

### Tile Misconceptions: Fact vs. Fiction

#### Durability

Tile roofs endure some of nature's toughest elements. Yet, despite the harshest weather, concrete and clay tile roofs can withstand wind, hail, rain, earthquakes and even fires. Additionally, both are made from naturally occurring materials that do not deplete precious natural resources making them an environmentally-friendly component to the structure.

#### Cost Benefits

Tile roofs are one of the most cost effective alternatives to your construction needs. Tile provides the most economical solution when compared to its lifecycle of 50 to 100 years or more. The combined effect of the roof tiles, air space and decking allows for better air circulation and reduces direct heat transfer. As a result, a tile roof can lower air conditioning costs in hotter climates and produce more constant temperatures in colder regions, which reduce potential ice accumulation.

- Return on Investment
- Increased Property Value
- Insurance Discounts
- More Value for Your Dollar

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**Weight**

Another misconception is that roof tile is too heavy for many structures. Most buildings built today are strong enough to support the weight of a tile roof. Most older structures can handle the weight of standard tile, provided all previous roofing materials are removed first. Moreover, many roof tile manufacturers now offer lightweight tile, which is particularly suitable for reroofing projects.

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**Our Beginnings**

TRI began in 1971 as the National Tile Roofing Manufacturers Association (NTRMA) and then became the Roof Tile Institute (RTI) as its technical expertise became established. It is now known as the Tile Roofing Institute (TRI) encompassing manufacturers, distributors, contractors and suppliers associated with the tile roofing industry. The Institute's primary mission is to continue the awareness of—and market demand for—tile roofing through continuous improvements in product quality and installation practices. Roof tile's superb quality and style make it an ideal and unique accent that will last for years to come.

TRI has produced technical manuals and preferred installation practices within all the major code bodies nationwide and has long been a reputable voice of the tile roofing industry. There are numerous cases in which TRI has played a major role in developing stronger building codes and detailed testing on tile durability. A few of those contributions include:

- TRI developed the first industry-based series of installation guides for all climatic regions.
- TRI assisted the Committee for Firesafe Dwellings in the creation of legislation to ban combustible roofing materials in California.
- TRI guided the tile roofing industry's successful efforts to revise codes for high-wind speeds, and worked with local building officials to upgrade installation standards following Hurricane Andrew.
- TRI and the University of Southern California determined that tile roofs—when installed under current building codes—withstanding forces two-to-three times those generated by the Northridge Earthquake.
- TRI worked with the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) to develop standardized testing methods for roof tile.

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**Red, Round – and So Much More!**

Nothing compares to tile roofs, so why trust your home to anything less?