

FAQs:

“How long do tile roofs really last?”

No one knows for sure. Tile roofs date back to Neolithic China, and many ancient structures with tile roofs still exist. In Europe and Asia roof tiles have been the primary roofing product for hundreds of years. Both clay and concrete tile roofing systems, when installed properly, will withstand weather conditions that begin to deteriorate other roofing products the day they are installed. In general, a tile-roof, clay or concrete - may outlast the building it protects.

“Are roof tiles available in shapes other than Spanish or Mediterranean?”

Yes. Roof tiles come in many colors, shapes and sizes. In fact, with modern innovations, clay and concrete roof tile manufacturers produce tiles that suit any architectural style, from authentic Spanish and Mediterranean to New England Colonial, historic or contemporary. Roof tiles can be flat or round, simulate wood shakes, or slate replicate centuries-old roofing materials. The possibilities are virtually limitless.

“Why consider a tile roof instead of asphalt shingles?”

VALUE: ...Resales and property values...

APPEARANCE: There is not an asphalt shingle on the market that can match the superior aesthetics of clay and concrete roof tile. The numerous styles, hundreds of colors, and variety of finishes available with roof tile allow you and your designer to create a roof to suit nearly any architectural style or one that is entirely unique.

PERFORMANCE: Roof tile has been used for centuries worldwide and for good reason. Both clay roof tile and its modern partner, concrete, are not only beautiful but also extremely durable. With proper building design and installation, tile roofs can last 50 to 100 years or more. They do not rot in wet climates and are not susceptible to destruction by pests. Tile roofs can be used in any climate or region and can withstand fire, earthquakes, the severest weather conditions, including hail, wind and snow. For these reasons, most roof tile manufacturers offer product warranties of at least 50 years.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY: Both clay and concrete roof tiles are made from naturally occurring materials that do not deplete precious natural resources. They are manufactured without chemical preservatives. And old tiles can be recycled to make new tiles or other products.

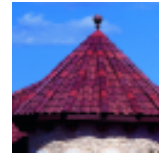
COST EFFECTIVE: With superior aesthetics, durability and longevity, roof tile is a cost-effective alternative to other roofing products. A simple comparison of lifecycle costs makes it clear that a tile roof is one of the best available today.

“I saw a news picture of a home with a tile roof surrounded by homes burned to the ground. Do tile roofs protect my home from fire better than other roofing materials?”

Clay and concrete tiles are completely non-combustible. The complete roof assembly has a Class "A" fire rating, the highest fire resistant rating available. Buildings with Class "A" rated tile roof systems should be eligible for the lowest fire insurance rates.

“What about the insulation value of a tile roof?”

Tile roofs are good insulators. The combined effect of the roof tiles, air space, and decking allows for better air circulation and reducing direct heat transfer. This should lower energy costs year round.



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Roof Tile... Providing the design flexibility you deserve



Tile perfectly complements the architectural styling of any home or building. There is tile that duplicates wood shake, just right for that ranch-style home. There's tile that replicates slate, a fitting choice for the Tudor style, of course, the rounded tiles, ideal for Spanish and Mediterranean structures.

Aesthetically pleasing, more durable than other roofing materials, and able to withstand extreme weather conditions, tile has been the first roofing choice in Europe and Asia for centuries. Tile's durability has been clearly demonstrated by how well it has withstood the test of time, weather and natural disasters.

The roof that protects your home and saves you money.

A guide to the features and benefits of clay and concrete roofing tile.

The life cycle cost of tile (annual cost over its expected life) is much less than metal, treated wood shakes, asphalt or fiberglass shingle roofs. This makes tile a natural choice; not just for durability, but also for its long-term economical benefits.



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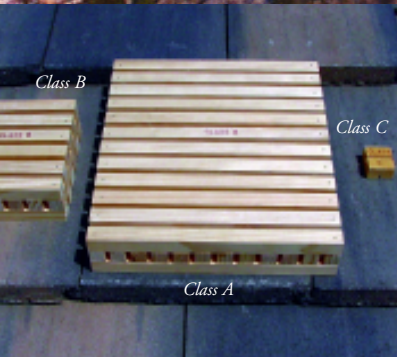
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230 E. Ohio Street, Suite 400, Chicago, Illinois 60611

Ph 312.670.4177 Fax 312.644.8557

To ensure that tile roofing continues the traditions of excellence, the Tile Roofing Institute member companies are constantly testing their products in extreme, real-world conditions. Striving for continuous improvement, the Tile Roofing Institute member companies have demonstrated that buildings with tile roofs provide the greatest protection and best value of any roofing material.

F I R E



Tile roofs achieve the highest attainable fire rating for both the product & installed system. The Class A fire rating includes tests for spread of flame, intermittent flame, and the burning brand.

- Every year, regardless of the part of the country, wild fires devastate hundreds of homes.
- In independent testing, concrete and clay tile roofing has proved to be safer than traditional roofing materials such as shingles, wood shake or metal. By design, a tile roof is allowing air circulation under the tile, which reduces heat transfer to the attic during a fire.

W I N D & R A I N



Engineers use a multi-million-dollar wind tunnel to subject roof tile to hurricane force conditions. Tiles past tests with winds at one hundred miles per hour, during a driving rainfall of up to eight inches per hour.

- For homeowners living in an area prone to tornadoes, hurricanes or extreme winds, roof tile provides one of the best defenses against weather-related property damage.
- One of the best attributes of concrete and clay tile roofing is its resistance to severe storms and hurricane-force winds. Its design and construction provide high air permeability, which helps relieve wind stress. Independent testing sponsored by the Tile Roofing Institute has shown that with proper attachment, clay and concrete roof tiles can sustain winds in excess of 125 miles-per hour that would have stripped off most other roofing materials.

H A I L

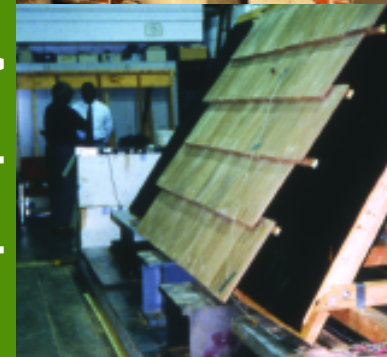


An ice cannon is used to impact a roof with simulated hailstones. Tiles are mounted onto test panels that simulate real-life conditions. The cannon produces terminal velocities that real hail would achieve in free-fall or wind-driven conditions.

- Different parts of the country are susceptible to devastation from extreme hailstorms. Clay and concrete roof tiles can resist damage from hailstones as large as 1.5", just larger than a golf ball.
- A tile roof system provides two layers of protection from the elements. The tile itself provides a tough water-shedding outer shell. An underlayment of asphalt roofing paper over the roof decking provides the inner shell if the tile was struck by extremely large hailstones. This is real protection that few other roofing systems can provide.



E A R T H Q U A K E



Tile is the only roofing product in the world to have been tested for seismic loading. Recently complete seismic testing, proves that roof tile could, in fact, withstand forces two to three times those generated by the 1994 Northridge, CA earthquake.

- Independent testing at the University of Southern California has shown that clay and concrete tile roofing systems, when installed according to building code standards, exceed current seismic load requirements for building materials.
- Although earthquakes are not preventable or predictable, homeowners can lessen their impact through emergency planning and proper building design.