

Technical Terms and Recommendations

It is the responsibility of the Employer to satisfy himself that the Roofer or Roof Tiler is someone competent to carry out the proposed Works. In this context and for the purpose of these recommendations; the Employer means the owner or Architect or Clerk of Works or other person responsible for giving specifications and/or directive governing the carrying out of the Works, we offer the following recommendations:

Single Lap Tiles

- (1) CELTIC TILES,
- (2) BARCO PANTILES,
- (3) LINCOLN PANTILES,
- (4) CORRUGATED TILES.

Double Lap Tiles

PLAIN TILES.

Relating to Single Lap Tiles:

- (a) Verge Tiles, these are purpose made double-roll tiles, laid to neaten and enhance the visual appearance of the left hand gable end of a roof and at the same time to give a greater resistance to adverse weather conditions.
- (b) The oblique cut at the bottom left-hand corner of the tile is known as the “shoulder”.
- (c) The oblique cut at the top right-hand corner of the tile is known as the “see”.
- (d) The bottom edge of the tile is known as the “tile”.

Relating to Plain Tiles:

- (e) Eaves Tiles, this is a purpose made tile of 200mm in length, to lay as an under-tile and form the first lap at the eaves of the roof.
- (f) Tile-and-a-half-tile, this is a purpose made tile to lay at the verge of a roof in alternate courses to ensure a correct bond through the roof covering.

TILE BATTENS

Tile battens should be good quality softwood of 25mm x 38mm minimum section, secured to the rafters with 38mm annular ring shank nails. Tile battens should be spaced according to the “gauge” of the tile being laid, the measurement being taken from top to top of the battens. The typical gauge for the Celtic Tiles, Barco Pantiles, Lincoln Pantiles and Corrugated Tiles is approximately 267mm and for Plain Tiles is approximately 102mm. Clay tiles are subject to small variations in size due to the drying and firing shrinkage in the manufacturing process. Before deciding on the batten gauge and linear coverage, the roofer should inspect each batch of tiles to ensure that correct minimum and side lap are achieved.

ROOF PITCH

The roof pitch for single lap tiles should not be less than 30° to the horizontal. Where a Sledge

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roof or some other specially designed roof is constructed of less than 30° to the horizontal and it is desired that the covering of such a roof shall match the covering of the main roof. The construction of the specially designed roof shall incorporate a fully supported weather-proof membrane beneath the tiles.

VERTICAL TILING

Double lap Plain Tiles are best suited for this work. Extra care should be taken when fixing the battens as the “drag” on the nails will be increased by the vertical position of the tiles and each and every tile should be secured with 2 No. annular ring shank nails.

FIXING TILES

Every tile which is nailed should have a small amount of movement, as the correct bedding of the tiles in the whole roof depends to some extent on natural settlement. Care must always be taken when nailing that the tile does not “ride up” out of its correct position. It is possible to “close up” or “spread” a row of tiles in the length of a gable-ended roof, this gaining or losing somewhere in the region of 2.5mm per tile. Should the length of the rafters of a roof be such a length that it does not work. A correction can be made by cutting the shoulder of the tile in the third course down from the ridge. The only time when the see of a tile should be cut is to fit the angle of a valley.

EAVES TILES

Should project a minimum of 50mm beyond the face of the support at the tile. The support, whether a course of bricks or a fascia board should rise above the rake of the roof a minimum amount equal to the thickness of tile. A small amount of tilt upwards to the eaves course of tiles, except in the case of a sprocketed roof, improves both appearance and function, eaves tiles which are supported by brickwork should be bedded directly onto the brickwork using cement mortar in the ratio 1:3, using clean washed sharp sand. The eaves course of single lap tiles should be bedded in mortar described above, onto a course of Plain Eaves tiles.

VERGE TILES

Should be bedded onto Plain tiles which in turn are bedded directly onto the brickwork of the gable and should project a minimum of 40mm from the face of the gable end. Bed and point in cement mortar as described above.

RIDGE TILES

A firm base for the bedding of the ridge tiles over the heads of pantiles which is also decorative is obtained by the method known as “galleting”. This consists of placing cut pieces of tile or shape tile units called “dentils” manufactured for this purpose, in the vertical face of the mortar showing in the dish of the tile. William Blyth recommends that the ridges are bedded and mechanically fixed where possible. This can be achieved by drilling 1 or 2 holes in the ridge and securing with stainless steel drive screws and sealing washers. A minimum of 25mm penetration of the ridge fixing screw should be achieved.

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