

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MAINTAINING & REPLACING YOUR ROOF



ROOF MATERIAL GUIDE

MATERIAL	AVERAGE LIFESPAN	PROS	CONS	HOME STYLES	GOOD & BETTER
<p>Asphalt Shingles Commonly used material for residential homes.</p>	20-30 years	Durable, low cost, available in many colors and styles, easy to install, good for all different climates	Shorter lifespan than other materials, tendency to fade, quality varies widely	Works with most styles of homes	<p>Good: 3-tab shingles Better: laminated or architectural shingles</p>
<p>Metal Metal roofs are getting more popular and more common. Available in varied materials, including copper, steel, aluminum, and zinc.</p>	50-70 years	Strong, low maintenance, long-lasting, lightweight, recyclable, weather resistant, may be able to repaint instead of replace	Need a roofing company that specializes in metal, fairly pricey (from \$100-\$300 per square, up to \$600-\$800 per square), can be noisy	Cabins, contemporary styles	<p>Good: coating with a mixture of aluminum and zinc Better: coating with “cool pigments,” which reflect solar heat</p>
<p>Wood Shake/Shingles Imparting a lovely rustic look to your home, wood shakes and shingles also are considered very environmentally friendly.</p>	25-35 years	Can stand up to weather pretty well, often made from recycled wood, weathers attractively; shakes are thicker than shingles	High maintenance to make them last, fire codes may prevent use, home insurance may be costlier, less sturdy in wet climates	Craftsman, Tudor, Cape Cod	<p>Good: locust, Osage orange Better: cedar, wallaba</p>
<p>Slate Shingles This is basically putting rock on your roof. Sophisticated and upscale, slate shingles are super durable.</p>	100+ years	Lasts longer than most other roofing material, fire resistant, available in many colors and styles	Tiles are easily broken during routine roof maintenance, expensive, expert installation needed	Colonial, European styles	<p>Good: real slate Better: synthetic slate shingles</p>
<p>Tile You may be familiar with brick-orange terracotta tiles on adobe homes, but they can also be made from metal, concrete, ceramic, and slate.</p>	45-60 years; clay tiles can last 100+ years	Resistant to fading, fireproof, elegant	Expensive, very heavy, can be fragile and crack, not suitable for extreme weather	Mission, adobe, Spanish, Southwestern; can also be made to look like shingles and will fit nearly every style	<p>Good: concrete Better: clay</p>
<p>Solar Roofs Solar shingles have dropped significantly in price.</p>	20-30 years	May qualify for tax incentives, may be able to sell unused energy to your utility company, can integrate with existing roof materials, especially asphalt	Often costs more than utility company energy, not suited for all areas or home types; panels can be unattractive and require expert installation	Since the shingles can be manufactured to look like your current roofing material, nearly any style of home will do	<p>Good: photovoltaic panels Better: built-in photovoltaic shingles</p>