

Quick Tip Sheet Commercial Roofing Materials

Commercial roofs come in many forms. The kind of roof plays an integral role in the overall health of the building and the longevity of the roof itself. The 5 most common roof classifications include:

Single-Ply Membrane System



Single-ply roofing systems are an attractive choice for commercial buildings due to their reliability and energy efficiency. These low-maintenance systems consist of pre-fabricated flexible sheets of compounded synthetic materials, providing consistency in quality and offering a variety of application methods. The main types of single-ply membranes include:

TPO: Made of durable material, their white color provides heat reflection and heat-welded seams provide a reliable bond that protects against water and high winds.

EPDM: A durable synthetic rubber roofing membrane, available in both black and white, and can be installed fully adhered, mechanically attached, or ballasted, with the seams sealed with liquid adhesives or specially formulated tape.

Built-Up (BUR) Roofing

BUR is more commonly known as "tar and gravel" or "hot-mop" roofs is one of the oldest and reliable commercial roofing systems for low-slope or flat roof structures. BUR consists of alternating layers of bitumen (asphalt) with layers of roofing felt, creating a durable multi-layer membrane that can resist harsh weather. BUR roofing may also be finished with a top layer of aggregate, such as stone or gravel.



Metal Roofing



Metal roofing provides considerable longevity, durability, and heat resistance. They provide exceptional strength and stability and can even resist fire. Offering a variety of aesthetically pleasing options including standing seam, batten, flat, Bermuda, and shingled metal. Metal panels provide protection against wind and allow rain to drain from the surface of the roof, preventing leaks and keeping occupants dry.

Tile Roofing

Tile roofing rivals metal roofs in terms of sheer longevity. Both clay and concrete tiles can endure harsh weather conditions, allowing them to last a long time. A tile roof also comes in a range of dimensional profiles, sizes and colors. Tile has one of the broadest color palettes of any roofing material.

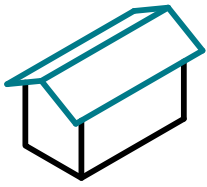


Asphalt Roofing

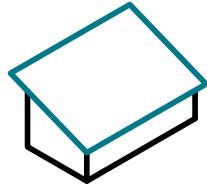


The classic asphalt roofing system is one of the most widely used roofing covers in North America. They use layers of asphalt that are modified with other materials, like polymers and fiberglass, for increased durability. They are quick to install, easy to maintain, and cost-efficient. Typical lifespan is 12-16 years.

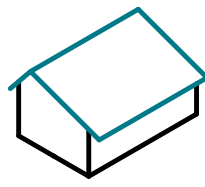
Roof Shape Examples



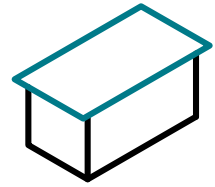
Open Gable



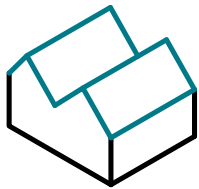
Shed



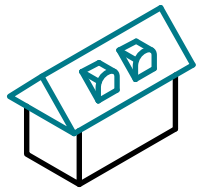
Saltbox



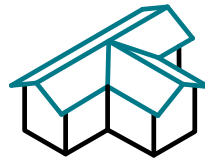
Flat



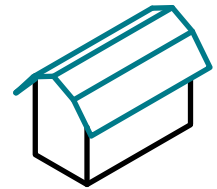
M Shaped



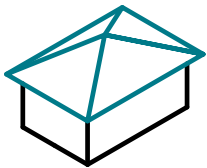
Dormer



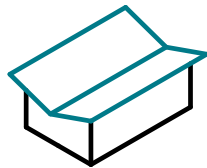
Hip & Valley



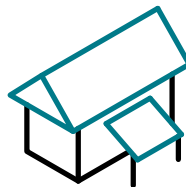
Gambrel



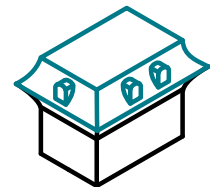
Pyramid / Hip



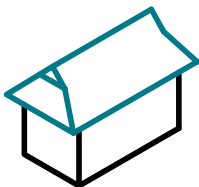
Butterfly



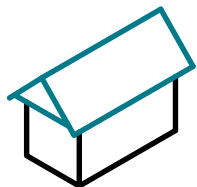
Lean-To



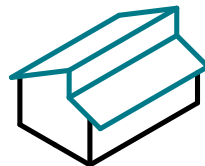
Mansard



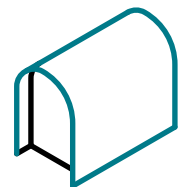
Dutch Gable



Box Gable



Clerestory



Curved