

Questions & Answers

TYPICAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING METAL ROOFING SYSTEMS

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES TO HAVING A METAL ROOF AS OPPOSED TO SHINGLES?

Metal roofing is a much better overall investment – it is longer lasting, durable and more weather-resistant (no warping, cracking, or peeling) and it does not burn and is impervious to termites and pests.

In testing, metal systems have withstood winds up to 200 m.p.h. and have historically survived hurricanes and wind storms when other materials have failed.

AREN'T METAL ROOFS NOISY?

The noise generated by a metal roof that is properly installed over a roof deck and insulation is no greater than that of a shingle system.

WILL THE LOOK OF A METAL ROOF FIT INTO MY NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY?

There are colors and profiles available that blend in with existing environments. The local building codes and neighborhood by-laws should be addressed when considering metal roofing. Contact your nearest Metal Sales representative for more information.

WHAT IS THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF A METAL ROOF?

A quality metal roof that is properly installed could last the lifetime of the owner. In fact, because metal withstands so many elements, metal roofing is known for its extensive life cycle.

HOW WELL DO METAL ROOFING SYSTEMS STAND UP TO THE ELEMENTS?

Properly installed metal roofing will withstand inclement weather (high winds, hail, snow, and rain) better than any other roofing material. Metal easily sheds snow and ice and does not absorb water which can lead to cracking and rotting in the freeze-thaw cycling in other materials.

WHAT ABOUT LIGHTNING?

With proper installation, the probabilities of a strike to a metal roofed structure are no more or less than any other kind of structure, as these probabilities have to do with height and size of the structure and its surroundings, rather than its construction materials.

HOW MUCH MAINTENANCE IS REQUIRED?

A properly installed metal roofing system is virtually maintenance free over the life of the roof.

WHAT DOES METAL ROOFING WEIGH COMPARED TO OTHER ROOFING MATERIALS?

Steel roofing can weigh half as much as shingles (shingles average 2 to 2.5 lbs. per square foot) and 1/10 the weight of clay (clay tile weighs 10 lbs. or more per square foot).

HOW IS METAL ROOFING ORDERED?

Metal roofing is custom cut to the inch based on individual project measurements and panels can be provided up to 45' in length. Color matching trim and fasteners are available. Consult your nearest branch for availability.

HOW IS METAL ROOFING APPLIED? TO WHAT SUBSTRATE? DO I NEED TO BE EXPERIENCED AT WORKING WITH SHEET METAL?

Metal roofing should be applied using clips or screw fasteners (as recommended by the manufacturer). A basic knowledge of sheet metal work is required for trimming panels, cutting valleys, hips and penetrations, fitting of trim and proper application of fasteners.

WHAT IS THE COST OF METAL ROOFING COMPARED TO SHINGLES? COMPARED TO SHAKES? TO OTHER MATERIALS?

Although the initial cost of metal roof systems may be higher than shingles, the cost/benefit ratio over the life of the roof is superior to either shake, slate, or tiles. Material cost alone (retail) for metal ranges from \$40 to \$250 per square depending on the gauge, configuration and finish. Installed cost ranges from \$100 to \$600 per square. The material cost of shingles varies from \$25 to \$100 per square with an installed cost ranging from \$50 to \$400 per square. Shakes will show an average installed cost of approximately \$190 per square and clay/concrete tile and slate systems will usually cost more than shake. These costs vary according to region.

NOTE: This information is to be used as a general guideline. Consult your nearest Metal Sales representative for more information and specific parameters regarding your area.

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Metal Roofing Features

MAINTENANCE

A properly installed metal roofing system is virtually maintenance free over the life of the roof.

APPLICATION

Metal roofing can be installed over the existing roofing material, bringing significant savings in time and labor in addition to eliminating the problem of disposal.

DURABILITY

Metal roofing is a much better overall investment – it is longer lasting, durable and more weather-resistant (no warping, cracking, or peeling) and it does not burn and is impervious to termites and pests.

In testing, metal systems have withstood winds up to 200 m.p.h. and have historically survived hurricanes and wind storms when other materials have failed.

WEATHER RESISTANT

Properly installed metal roofing systems will withstand inclement weather (high winds, hail, snow and rain) better than any other roofing material. With proper installation, metal roofing is just as lightning-resistant as other roofing material.

NON-COMBUSTIBLE

Metal roofing systems carry fire ratings that can reduce the homeowner's overall insurance rate due to the fire-resistance of metal.

LIFE EXPECTANCY

A quality metal roof that is properly installed could last the lifetime of the owner. In fact, because metal withstands so many elements, metal roofing is known for its extensive life cycle.

AESTHETICS

Metal roofing is beautiful as well as durable and is available in many different styles, configurations, and colors to fit diverse architectural requirements and tastes. The local building codes and neighborhood by-laws should be addressed when considering metal roofing.

WEIGHT

Metal roofing can weigh as little as 1/10th as much as competing materials, translating to lower transportation costs as well as construction costs.

ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE

A metal roof typically requires less labor to install than either shingle, shake or tile. Exceptions to this rule would be complicated roofs requiring extensive sheet metal work.

COST EFFECTIVE APPLICATION

Metal roofing reflects and absorbs heat more efficiently than competing materials translating to lower cooling costs. It also sheds snow and water for extended life.

LOWER LIFETIME COST

Although the initial cost of metal roof systems may be higher than shingles, the cost/benefits ratio over the life of the roof is superior to that of a shingle system and far superior to either shake, slate or tiles.

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