



# STORMFORCE

ROOFING & MAINTENANCE LTD

## TILED ROOFING

Tiles are manufactured materials made from hard wearing materials such as ceramic, clay, stone or even glass (though this depends on the use of the tile, as tiles are not used exclusively for roofing). Roof tiles are usually made from clay, though they can be made from slate or wood (known as shingles). Sometimes, modern materials such as concrete or plastic are used, though clay is still most common. Clay tiles will often have a waterproof glaze. Tiles have been used in roofing for centuries, and thus several different shapes (or 'profiles') have evolved.

**Flat Tiles** - Flat roof tiles are the simplest type of roofing tile. As the name suggests, they are flat, and they are usually a rectangular shape. When placed on a roof, they are usually layered, and are laid in a repeating, parallel pattern. Flat roof tiles are usually made from wood or stone, though the design is also used for solar panels when used in roofing.

Flat tiles were once limited by an Act of Parliament to a regular size of 10.5 by 6.5 inches. This act has long since been repealed, but the size has remained constant, apart from a slight change to 265 by 165mm in the mid 1970s. Methods of laying tiles have remained surprisingly unchanged also.

Modern tiles have a 'nib', which allows them to be hung from battens (the horizontal pieces of wood which traverse the rafters)

**Roman Tiles** - Roman tiles are flat in the middle, with a convex curve at one side, and a concave curve on the opposite side, allowing them to interlock.

**Single Lap tiles** - Single Lap tiles (or pantiles) have a shallow, 'S' shaped profile, allowing adjacent tiles to lock. When laid, they form a pattern similar to a ploughed field. The size of a single lap tile was fixed in the early eighteenth century at 13 1/2" x 9 1/2". One of the main disadvantages of a single lap tile is the shape, which can make the cutting of the tiles to fit a 'hip' or a 'valley' on a roof. The underside of a single lap tile is usually torched with a lime or a clay mortar, to prevent rain or snow penetration.

**Mission (or Barrel) Tiles** - Mission/Barrel tiles are semi-cylindrical tiles, traditionally made by forming clay around a log. The tiles are then laid in an alternating concave/convex pattern. These tiles are common in France, Spain and Italy, particularly in rural regions.

**Peg Tiles** - Peg tiles are very similar to flat tiles, with one obvious difference, in that they have holes through which an oak peg is pushed through, holding the tiles together. The roof can be very colourful, as moss growths can occur, and tiles when replaced will often be a different shade to the majority of the roof. Modern day pegs tend to be made from steel or aluminium rather than oak.



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