

Introduction

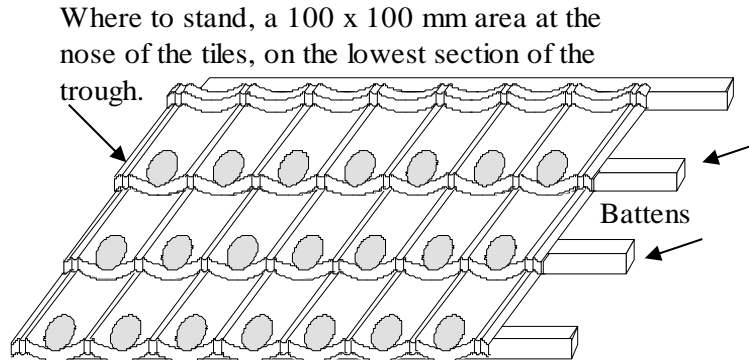
This information sheet is intended to give you the relevant details about how to care for your roof and maintenance that should be carried out.

It is a condition of the material and product warranty issued with AHI Roofing Limited products, namely Decra® Roofing Systems -that the following maintenance procedures are carried out. Maintenance is Essential to prolong the good looks of the product and ensure that it performs as you would expect it should. Failure to carry out a regular maintenance program may result in a significantly reduced lifespan of the product and nullify any warranty.

How To Walk on Your Roof

You should not walk on your roof unless it is absolutely necessary. To avoid denting, cracking or other damage to your roof, you should, if you have occasion to walk on it, wear soft soled shoes, such as tennis shoes or runners. Place your weight over the battens. Take your time, care is required on steep pitch roofs and you should avoid walking on the roof when it is wet. When working at height take appropriate precautions to prevent falls.

If service/trade persons need to access the roof, inform them that the roof is a metal tile roof and if need be inform them of where they should be walking on the roof. Most good trades people know how to walk over roofs, however they should be informed as to what precautions are required.



Organic Growth

In areas of high rainfall or high humidity levels, or in areas where there are heavy atmospheric pollutants, organic growth can occur. It should be removed to prevent damage to the roof's protective coating, using a roof cleaning material that is suitable for your type of roofing. You can do this yourself or contact a commercial contractor, who specialise in this work and can do it for you very cost effectively. We can offer some names on request.



The time and extent that the growth appears is very dependent on local conditions; this can be as localised as different sections on the same roof. The pitch, direction the roof is facing and locality of trees or any object positioned over the roof, and the weather (rainfall and humidity) can all contribute to conditions that accelerate or inhibit organic growth.

Atmospheric pollutants such as dirt from building sites, fertilisers from nearby farms and pollen from trees also contaminate roofs. These are often mistaken for organic growth on new roofs. They may

Wash off in heavy rain - if they don't they should be washed off or they may remain and contribute nutrients for organic growth to accumulate on.

There are two commonly available materials that will clean algae and lichen from roofs. These are hypochlorite or sanitising washes. Some organic growths will be killed immediately, and will disappear after a few rainfalls. Other types of growths, such as black algae and lichen, may take many rainfalls and as long as 6 months to be removed from the surface. You will know if the treatment is working if the organic growth changes colour. This may take from a few days to a few weeks.

Preventative Maintenance

It is best to chemically (hypochlorite solution) clean the roof before growths are seen as a preventative maintenance measure. Spores may be present on the roof for up to two years before any visible organic growths are noticed. Treating the roof will not only kill the organic growths, but also the spores that lead to them. We suggest treating the roof a minimum of every three years, however if you see growth occurring treat the roof more frequently.



Method: Work from the apex (top of the roof) down. Use only recommended Solution. Use a NYLON scrubbing brush dipped in the solution to scrub free dirt/algae growth. After 1 hour scrub tiles using clean water.

NB: Hypochlorite should not be used on textured roofs under 5 years old as it can affect the clear overglaze that is applied to the tiles during their manufacture. If you are unsure of the age of the roof then the solution should be applied to a small test area that is unseen from the ground. If the general surface of the roof turns white then you should not use this type of roof wash – instead use a mild detergent (dishwashing liquid) and water.

Material compatibility with Modern Roofing Materials

If alterations are made to your home after installation of your roof, such as fitting of chimneys, extensions, installation of skylights etc, it is important to ensure that the materials that are used are compatible with your roofing material. AHI Roofing Limited's metal tiles are manufactured from Zinalume®* steel and then post painted with a protective and decorative coating system.

Dissimilar metal corrosion

When two different metals are in contact and moisture is present, one metal is relatively protected while the other suffers accelerated corrosion. A similar effect commonly occurs with water flowing over dissimilar metals. This form of corrosion is commonly found: where water is discharged from copper or brass systems over a galvanised or Zinalume® steel roof, where unpainted lead flashings are applied directly to Zinalume® steel products or where fasteners are incompatible with the roofing material. Any electrical contact between dissimilar metals should be avoided, e.g. wet leaves making contact between copper gutters and Zinalume® steel roofing tiles,

Specific advice should be sought from AHI Roofing Limited regarding use of dissimilar metals.

*Zinalume® is the registered trademark of the BHP group of companies.

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