

RESIDENTIAL RE-ROOFING: Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why do I need a permit to re-roof my house?

Your permit allows the building department to inspect for potential hazards and unsafe construction. By ensuring your project meets the minimum building code standards of safety, the building department can reduce the risk of fire, structural collapse and other issues that might result in costly repairs, injuries and even death. Inspections complement the contractor's experience and act as a system of checks and balances that can result in a safer project.

Besides, it's the law.

2. May I, as the owner, do the re-roof myself?

Yes.

3. Will my roof be inspected?

Yes, the permit holder must call for a Sheathing inspection and a Final Roof inspection.

4. How many layers of roofing are allowed?

Two layers are allowed; however, we recommend removing the old layer.

5. Is drip edge required?

Yes, drip edge shall be provided at eaves and gables of shingle roofs, overlapped a minimum of 2", extending a minimum of 1/4" below the roof sheathing and up the roof deck a minimum of 2".

6. What should be done with existing roof jacks and vents?

These must be raised to the level of the new roof and replaced if they are in poor condition, badly rusted or otherwise deteriorated.

7. Are there other requirements?

If your neighborhood has a Homeowners Association, we advise you to contact them prior to making any changes in your roof covering materials.

Tips on hiring contractors

- Hire only licensed contractors.
- Get at least three (3) bids.
- Get three (3) references and ask to see a project.
- Get it in writing, but before you sign the contract make sure you completely understand it.
- Do not make final payment until a Certificate of Completeness (CC) has been issued and until you are satisfied.
- Have the contractor apply for the required permits.