

Eco Roof Slate - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What are the roof slates made of?

A) 100% recycled P.E. resins with additives, colouring, and UV Inhibitors.

2. Are the Eco slates lightweight?

A) The Eco Slates are extremely lightweight in comparison with most other options. On average a square metre will weigh less than 13kg.

3. How are they installed?

A) Eco Slates are simply nailed into place directly to a sarking board; the nailing guides on the slate ensure that the nails are also driven through the slate beneath ensuring four fixing points for each slate, for more detail see the Eco Slate Installation Guide.

4. Do I need roofing battens?

A) No, Eco Slate is designed to be laid (nailed) directly onto a board roof (with breathable membrane) they are not designed for use with battens. The supporting board should be 18mm external grade ply or OSB.

5. What type of nail should I use during installation?

A) Relevant size 9.5mm head, copper, stainless steel or hot-dipped galvanised nails are recommended.

6. The slates seem very flexible, how do they hold up in strong wind conditions?

A) The slates have been tested in winds up to 110mph and therefore the wind causes no problem.

7. Does the colour fade?

A) Over the 50 year warranty expect a variable colour change; however the UV Inhibitors ensure they are extremely fade resistant.

8. Do you sell caps and ridge slates?

A) No, the slate is flexible so can be used for all the valley, cap and ridge areas.

9. Do the slates get brittle in the sun?

A) No, the slates have UV Inhibitors built in them to protect against harmful UV rays, they become flexible in hot weather.

11. Do you need to use underlay during installation?

A) Yes, we recommend using a breathable membrane. You must not use any bitumen based underlay or felt.

12. Can the slates be cut for angles?

A) Yes, a Stanley knife blade or any other cutting equipment will cut the slate.

13. How are the slates packaged?

A) The slates are packaged in boxes of 34.

14. Do the slates need to be stored indoors or outdoors?

A) We recommend indoor storage, as the slates are packaged in cardboard boxes.

15. Besides the underlay and nails what other materials do you need?

A) No other materials are needed.

16. What fire rating do they have?

A) Class 'A' fire rating; see the specification page for full test certificates.

17. Will the slates damage during hail storms?

A) No, the slates have been given a class 4 impact rating; see the specification page for full test certificates.

18. Will there be any noise problems during heavy rain or hail?

A) No, the slates are solid and not hollow, so the noise is kept at a minimum.

19. How many slates do you get to a square metre?

A) As a guide allow 17 slates on average per square metre for a pitch of 20 to 45 degrees, 19 slates per square metre for pitches between 15 to 20 degrees and 22 slates per square metre for pitches between 10 and 15 degrees. Allow 7 slates per linear metre for valleys and ridges and 3 slates extra per metre for eaves. It is always better to use the higher number of slates suggested for any pitch.

20. What is the cost of the slates?

A) Our prices are published on line, or call our sales team for a quote.

21. What guarantee do the slates have?

A) The slates have a 50-year non-prorated warranty.

22. Can I use slates on vertical and very steep roofs like dormer cheeks and Mansards?

A) The manufacturer's warranty does not cover roof pitches of over 45 degrees

23. How many slates will I need if the pitch of my roof is below 20 degrees?

A) Roof pitches between 15-20 degrees require on average 19 slates per square metre. Roof pitches between 10-15 degrees require on average 22 slates per square metre. Please contact the office if you require further information.

24. If the pitch of my roof is below 20 degrees and needs flashing, how is the slate fitted?

A) The Eco Slates are very flexible, for pitches below 20 degrees it is recommended to use the Eco Slates for flashing, the slates are very flexible especially when warm and can easily be bent to fit, once in place slates should be fixed using nails; If not using the Eco Slate then conventional flashings may be used, ensure adequate overlap (seek flashing manufacturer's advice) if sealing please use a sealant or adhesive compatible with materials containing PVB

25. The slates are described as self-bonding what does that mean?

A) Eco Slates are made from recycled material that already contains a plasticiser, when laid in contact with each other and when warmed by the sun over a period of time the slates bond (stick) to each other. This bond becomes permanent. This process can be quite quick, a few weeks, in hot weather but may take much longer depending on the exposure to sun. Slates on north facing or very sheltered sites may take years to bond if at all, this is not a worry as all testing and accreditation for the slates was carried out on un-bonded slates.

For more information visit www.ecomerchant.co.uk or call 01793 847 444