

Weather Blocking of Hips, Ridges and Headwalls

The new Moderate Climate installation guide just published by the Roof Tile Institute and the Western States Roofing Contractors Association for concrete and clay tile includes reference to the weather blocking of hips, ridges and headwalls as follows:

Note: Openings at hips, ridges and head walls shall be fitted with weather blocking material to keep water on the surface of the field tile. Other methods approved by the local building official will be allowed.

In the appendix of the manual the following definition is provided.

Weather Blocking: A barrier of moldable or preformed rigid material which blocks the entry of wind driven moisture at openings between the field tile and trim tile or the field tile and the flashing.

As industry we wish to make every effort to properly state our recommendations to you the specifier, roofer and end consumer in such a manner that you can easily understand the options that are available. Since this will be an upgrade to the current roofing practices in a few locations, we have drafted this technical bulletin to be distributed, to help further clarify the intent of the manual.

Since the weather blocking as described does provide for a series of options that can be considered we have provided the following additional information.

For the sealing of :

Headwalls of Flat tile – As a **minimum**, a 26 gauge roof to wall metal with hemmed edges or a spring tension fit that is tight against the tile surface shall be installed to keep the water on the top surface of the tile. Or other materials as approved by the local building official

Hips of Flat Tile - Hips shall be fitted with a weather blocking material such as:

- Coated Polyurethane Foam
- Mortar
- Mastic (felt paper may be required)
- Lead, Malleable Aluminum
- U.V. Resistant Neoprene or preformed Plastic or Metal
- U.V. Resistant Pressure Sensitive Adhesive backed Tape
- Moldable Synthetic Adhesive Mortar

Or other materials as approved by the local building official

Ridges of Flat tile – As a minimum, a strip of ASTM D226 underlayment of sufficient width to cover the nail holes of the field tile a minimum of ½” and shall be installed in such a manner to keep the water on top of the field tile on both sides of the ridge. This underlayment shall be held in place by the ridge tile to the surface of the field tile. As an upgrade, you can consider one of the methods listed for profiled tile.

Low profile and High profile tile – The headwalls, hips, and ridges of these profile of tiles shall be fitted **along their entire width** with a weather blocking material such as:

- Coated Polyurethane Foam
- Mortar
- Mastic (felt paper may be required)
- Lead, Malleable Aluminum
- U.V Resistant Neoprene or preformed Plastic or Metal
- U.V. Resistant Pressure Sensitive Adhesive backed Tape
- Moldable Synthetic Adhesive Mortar

Or other materials as approved by the local building official

Where weatherblocking material provides non-permeable protection, it is not necessary to install an additional sheet of underlayment over the nailer boards. Moisture barrier must be provided when using mortar against the nailer boards.

The industry has made every attempt to provide the greatest number of options available for your consideration. There maybe additional methods that will become available in the future and we will try and keep you informed of any new developments via our website