



Come home to tile.

Timeless style meets unsurpassed practicality.
Discover why a tiled roof is the right choice for your new home.

Come home to durability.

If you're deciding what kind of roof to put on your new home, try this exercise. Pick up a roof tile. Simply feeling its thickness and strength will tell you that apart from looking good, tiles will make a substantial and hardwearing roof for your home. Cultures throughout Europe and Asia have thought so for centuries and have continued to use tiles because of their beauty and resistance to the natural elements.

Here in Australia, where more extreme natural conditions like heat, frost and especially sea salt put any roof to the test, tiles are an excellent choice. In fact, tiles are so durable, manufacturers can confidently give their product a 50-year guarantee.

Whether terracotta or concrete, roof tiles won't warp, crack, become porous, leak or get damaged by frost or coastal salt. With 90% of our population living by the coast, tiles simply make better sense in most situations.

If you want a roof that's tough and good looking, the right choice is tile.

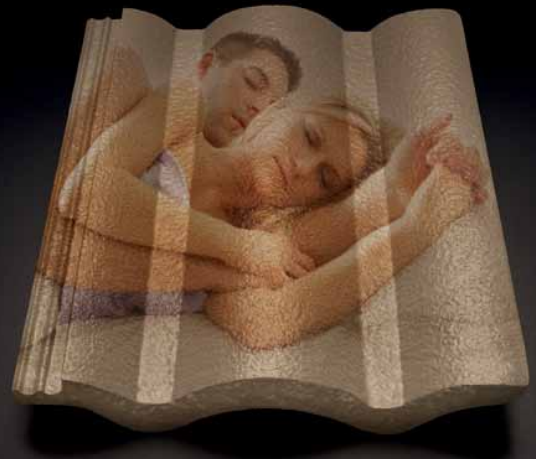


Come home to quiet.

Most roofs reduce noise. But a tile roof provides a far more substantial barrier than any other roofing material. In fact, tiles have a noise reduction rating of 30 decibels, where the most commonly used alternative can only manage 12.*

The raw figures alone are impressive enough. However, the jump from 12 to 30 decibels, in terms of actual noise levels, is exponential. Something akin to going from a sneeze to a New Year's firecracker. Which means a tile roof is very effective in reducing normal, every day noise from traffic, aircraft and trains.

If you want to have peace and quiet in your home, the right choice is tile.



*Cement and Concrete Association of Australia Technical Report. TR/F81.Sept. 1984

Come home to choice.

No other roofing material offers the choice and flexibility of tiles. The most commonly used alternative roofing material is pretty much limited to two basic profiles. Tiles on the other hand come in 10 different profiles and 30 desirable colours giving you a massive array of possible colour and style options.

With so many different architectural styles and finishes now available, tiles give you the flexibility to find the perfect finish to your home.

Whether you're after the modern look of a slim-line concrete tile, a more traditional roof with a ribbed profile or something a little more middle-of-the-road, you can easily find a tile roof that will fit the bill.

If choice is important to you, the right choice is tile.



Come home to longevity.

If you want to build your roof once and do it beautifully, choose tile. Many tile roofs have been known to remain serviceable for 100 years and longer. That's at least twice the length of the standard roof tile guarantee. No other commonly used roofing material can demonstrate that kind of long-lasting performance.

What's more, concrete tiles actually increase in strength and durability over time. And should you choose terracotta, the roofs of southern Europe and much of Asia are true testimony to fired clay's ability to handle the long haul.

Tiles also maintain their integrity with little or no maintenance. Terracotta never fades and concrete tile colour may mellow a little over time. Because their colour is embedded it will never delaminate and peel off like a painted surface can. And unlike some other products, you don't need to wash tiles after extended dry periods because they are unaffected by the airborne salt that settles on them.

If you want a roof that'll be around when your grandkids' grandkids come along, the right choice is tile.



Come home to warmth.

With rising energy costs, a roof that will help maintain the warmth in your home during winter is an important consideration. Tiles are an excellent choice because relative to other materials their high mass helps to even out temperature fluctuations by storing and then slowly releasing heat during the day and night.

However, regardless of the thermal mass advantage tiles offer, the most crucial factor in retaining warmth within your home is insulation. Proper insulation will keep your house warmer by preventing heat from entering your roof space and eventually transferring to the air outside.

If you love coming home to a cosy house, the right choice is tile.



Come home to cool.

In a hot climate like ours, the thermal performance of a roof is measured by how much heat it gains, rather than how much it loses. And an important factor in heat gain is colour. The lighter the colour of your roof, the more solar radiation it reflects and the less heat it absorbs.

However, materials of similar colour and heat reflectance can perform differently in the way they transfer heat into your home. Tests conducted by the University of Newcastle* showed that roof tiles of similar solar reflectance to the most commonly used alternative material, transfer less heat into a home's living space. The benefit to you is that a tile roof can reduce the amount of energy required to cool your home.

If you want a house that keeps its cool, the right choice is tile.



*University of Newcastle. Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, 2010.

How Tiles Compare

Guarantee

Roof tiles can give you a 50-year guarantee against warping, cracking, leakage and damage by salt and frost. In addition, terracotta tiles are also guaranteed to be colour fast for 50 years. The leading alternative roofing material is guaranteed against corrosion for up to 30 years and only up to 20 years if the dwelling is less than 5 kilometres from the ocean. The coating on such common alternative materials is usually guaranteed for 20 years.

Noise reduction

Roof tiles have a noise reduction rating of 30 decibels against general external noise. The most commonly used alternative has a noise reduction rating of 12 decibels against general external noise.

Choice

Roof tiles give you a choice of over 10 profiles and 30 colours. The most commonly used alternative comes in 20 colours and 2 profiles.

Longevity

Tile roofs have been known to remain serviceable for 100 years and longer.

Maintenance

Tile roofs require little or no maintenance even in high salt concentration areas. Roofs made from alternative roofing materials may need to be washed if not regularly exposed to rain.

Fire protection

Non-combustible materials like terracotta and concrete provide excellent protection against radiant heat from bushfires. Tile roofs have been tested and pass the requirements of AS3959-2009 for fire zone construction.

Storm Endurance

Terracotta and concrete roof tiles offer more resistance to wind suction than lighter weight materials.

Repair costs

If damage is sustained during a storm, you only need to replace the individual damaged tiles.

Your questions answered

What is the difference between concrete and terracotta tiles?

Concrete tiles are one of Australia's most popular roofing materials. They offer value for money and a wide choice of colours. Terracotta tiles have been used for thousands of years and offer natural durability in both colour and quality. Made to Australian Standard AS2049, tiles will withstand harsh climatic conditions and marine environments. They are salt-safe and frost-resistant, making them suitable for any location, including coastal areas.

Are roof tiles more durable than other roofing options?

Tiles outlast most other roofing options. Roof tile manufacturers generally offer warranties of 50 years, while some alternative roofing materials are only covered by warranty for 30 years.

What is the best roofing material to endure storms?

Tiles offer more resistance to wind suction than lighter weight materials such as metal sheeting. When damage is sustained during a storm, you only need to replace the individual damaged tiles. When a sheet metal roof is damaged, the entire sheet may need to be replaced, which can make for a costly repair bill.

Which roofing material is better at blocking out noise?

The density of tiles helps reduce external sound, such as aircraft and road noise and particularly rain. A tiled roof has a significantly higher sound reduction potential than common alternative roofing materials. Also, tiled roofs won't creak and groan in reaction to changing temperatures.

I live near the coast. What is the best roofing solution for coastal conditions?

Tiles are ideal for coastal regions as they are suitable for the high salt content of marine environments. In the absence of rain, alternative roofing materials may require hosing down in high salt concentration areas, which can pose difficulties with water restrictions.

Design facts

Different styles and colours can create a mood or make a statement, help you stand out in the crowd or blend in with the streetscape. It's an entirely individual choice. In many cases, the design determines your roofing material selection. With our wide range of traditional and contemporary tiles and extensive choice of colours, you can combine different finishes and shades to create a roof that is as subtle or dramatic as your design. Since choosing the right tile can be a time-consuming process, expert product consultants are on hand at display centres to assist in finding the style and colour that will best create that individual look. Once tiles are installed there is little or no maintenance. Should a section of the roof ever be damaged, there is the added advantage of only needing to replace individual tiles.

Endurance and strength

Tiles are made to strict strength specifications in Australian and New Zealand Standards. Terracotta has been used for thousands of years for its incredible durability and beauty. The high density and strength of concrete ensure your tiles will be both waterproof and highly enduring. Concrete tiles do not become brittle or porous with old age. In fact, independent testing indicates that concrete tiles actually strengthen and become less porous over time.

Fire facts

Non-combustible materials such as concrete and terracotta provide excellent protection against radiant heat from bushfires. Tiled roofs have been tested and pass the requirements of AS3959-2009 for fire zone construction.

Dry facts

Even during severe downpours, tiles absorb negligible amounts of water. This absorption does not affect the tile's weatherproofing performance. In fact, independent research indicates that tiles absorb less water with age.

Surface facts/ What is lichen?

In some climates, moss and lichen can grow on your tiles. They will not affect your tiles in any way, and can add character to your roof. However, if you prefer the clean lines of your tiles, both moss and lichen can be easily removed by a professional cleaning contractor.

Cosy facts

The density of concrete and terracotta roof tiles provides highly effective thermal insulation relative to other roofing materials.

Wind facts

The weight of your roofing material will contribute to its performance in high wind areas. Terracotta and concrete roof tiles outperform in this regard by offering more resistance to wind suction than lighter weight materials. The use of a flexible pointing material to fix ridge capping enhances security in high winds.

Thirsty facts

If you collect or are planning on using tank water, the water from a tiled roof is as drinkable as water from any other type of roof.

What is roof sarking?

Sarking is a type of foil used as insulation and can reflect up to 95% of radiant heat away from your roof space on a hot summer day. Sarking also helps in keeping dust out and protecting your home during bushfires and storms.

Why is concrete not as colour-fast as terracotta?

Concrete tiles are not glazed and like all exterior building materials they are subject to UV radiation and atmospheric pollutants. As a result they will weather with age to a matt finish and will lose some colour over time. Should you wish to restore them to their original, as-new look, depending on the material and method used, it is completely acceptable to spray a concrete roof. Terracotta tiles are kiln-fired with a vitreous coating that makes these tiles resistant to harsh UV exposure and pollutants.

Anything and everything you need to know about roof tiles can be found at the manufacturer's sites listed here.



www.boral.com.au/rooftiles



www.bristilerroofing.com.au



www.csrroofing.com.au



www.barro.com.au



www.harmonyrooftiles.com.au

To find the right tile for your home, visit www.comehometotile.com.au

This information is presented as a means of providing an introduction to the operations and products of members of the Roofing Tile Association of Australia Inc. The information is being continuously updated. It is not provided with the intention of arriving at a contractual relationship. It is not provided with the intention of giving a comprehensive understanding of the way in which our products perform or their suitability for use in any particular environment or circumstance - such an understanding should be based on members technical manuals which relate to their product at the time of manufacture and on the advice of those qualified to advise on such matters. © Roofing Tile Association of Australia Inc. 2010.