

Just a short Vocabulary list of common roofing terms to help you understand the process with confidence

Algae Stain: Roof discoloration caused by algae. Often misidentified as moss growth.

Collar: A preformed flange placed over a vent pipe to seal the roof around the opening. Also called a vent sleeve.

Condensation: The conversion of water vapor into liquid when warm, moist air contacts a cold surface.

Decking/Sheathing: The flat surface, installed over the supporting framing members, to which roofing is applied. *The minimum thickness of a wood decking is a 15/32" exterior grade plywood or 7/16" exterior grade OSB.*

Drip Edge Flashing: A L-shaped metal strip installed along the roof edged to allow water runoff and avoid water damage. Required by building code.

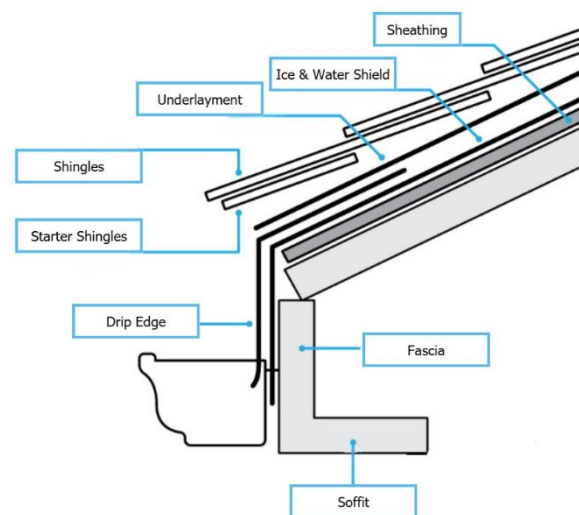
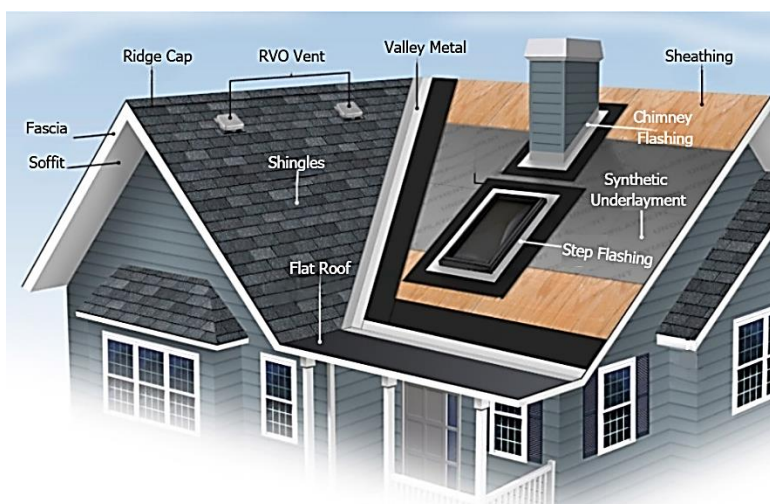
Eaves: The horizontal, lower edge of a sloped roof.

Fascia: A flat board, band, or face located at the overhang

Flashing: Pieces of metal used to prevent water seepage into a building around any intersection or projection on a roof, such as vent pipes, chimneys, adjoining walls, dormers, and valleys. Galvanized metal flashing should be a minimum of 26-gauge.

Ice & Water Shield: A waterproof roof underlayment membrane created to protect vulnerable areas on a roof from ice and water damage.

Overdriven Nails: Common in hand nailing where nails driven too deep into the roofing material during installation. Can damage shingles and lead to leaks.



Penetrations: Vents pipes, chimneys- anything that penetrates the roof deck.

Rake: The sloped edge of a roof that extends over a wall.

Ridge: The highest horizontal angle formed by the intersection of two sloping roof planes.

Soffit: The finished underside of the eaves.

Tear Off: The process of completely removing an existing roofing system down to the structural deck.

Underdriven Nails: Common in hand nailing where nails that aren't driven flush with the shingle surface, leaving them "proud" (sticking out). Can allow water to get in.

Underlayment: Material placed beneath roofing, such as asphalt-saturated felt or specially engineered synthetic materials, to provide extra protection for the roof deck.

Valley: The internal angle formed by the intersection of two sloping roof planes.

Valley Flashing: Metal flashing installed in roof valleys before shingles. Helps channel water off the roof to prevent leaks.

Wall Flashing: A type of installation (normally metal) that is installed with masonry to divert water away from the surface and keep it dry. Stops water from pooling and creating damage or leakage on a roof.