Roofing

Roof Certification (required county-wide)

A Roofing Certification form must be filled out by the owner or contractor doing the work. It must state that an ice barrier was installed per the building code, what class of roof covering was used, and that the manufacturer’s installation requirements were met for the site design wind speed.

Ice Barrier (required county-wide)

- An ice barrier shall consist of not fewer than two layers of underlayment cemented together or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet and shall extend from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point at least two feet inside the exterior wall.*

*Metal panel roofs, membrane roof coverings and detached accessory structures that contain no heated floor area do not require an ice barrier. Existing asphalt shingles with no ice barrier may receive a second layer of roof covering without adding an ice barrier.

Roofing requirements (required county-wide)

- Class “A” roof covering is now required in all areas of the county.

- Class “4” high impact asphalt shingles are required for all new construction and roof replacements. See note under “Other Considerations” for exceptions.

- Metal roofing, asphalt shingles, mineral surface roll roofing, clay or concrete tile, slate and wood shakes or shingles pressure impregnated with fire retardant chemicals that qualify for a Class “A” roof covering are acceptable. (The class of roof covering materials must be labeled and approved by an independent agency, and the manufacturer’s installation requirements must be met.)

- Much of Larimer County is a High-Wind Area (Ultimate Design Wind Speeds equals or exceeds 140 mph). Roof coverings must be rated for the site wind speed and attached per the manufacturer.

- Drip edge is required at eaves and gables of asphalt shingle roofs. Flashings are required at roof and wall intersections, soffits (bird-stop), at changes in roof slope or direction, and around roof openings. A cricket or saddle shall be installed on the ridge side of any chimney or penetration more than 30” wide perpendicular to the slope, including on reroofs with existing chimneys.

Other considerations before installing a roof

If installing wood shingles or shakes, fire-retardant treated wood shakes or shingles are required. If there are no labels on the shingles or shakes do not install them; they will not be approved for use. It will be the owner’s and contractor’s responsibility to get the proper classification of roof covering from the supplier and to be able to show such proof of classification to the building inspector.

NOTE: Any repairs, additions, and re-roofs exceeding 50% of the total roof during any one year period, as well as all new construction, must comply with the above requirements.

Roofing Classifications

Material Class is categorized by composition or resistance to fire (combustible or noncombustible) and impact resistance. Class A has the highest resistance, Class C has the least resistance. Your roofing supplier should be able to provide the technical information you need.

Solid Sheathing

Most roof coverings must be installed on solid sheathing, defined as having maximum 1/8” gaps.