

Tiler - Roof



Alternate title Roof Tiler; Shingler; Slater

Description Roof tilers cover structures with roof tiles, slates or shingles to form waterproof surfaces.

Roof tilers' work involves a lot of bending, climbing and lifting. They work outdoors in all weather conditions. Particular care has to be taken in wet weather.

Typical duties

- look at drawings, specifications and work sites to determine materials required;
- assess risks;
- erect ladders and tile elevators;
- place and secure roofing underlays over eaves and nail or staple to roofs;
- correctly space and nail wooden strips called battens across the roof rafters on which the tiles will be placed;
- lay aluminium, steel or clay tiles, stone slates, or wooden shingles;
- overlap successive layers of tiles and measure and cut roofing material to fit around vents, chimney edges, and the hips and valleys of the roof;
- fix roof flashings;
- fix the ridge caps and gable ends with cement mortar;
- clear the roof of debris when the job is finished.

Personal requirements

- enjoy practical and manual work;
- a good sense of balance;
- good hand-eye coordination;
- prepared to work at heights and outdoors.

Qualification Certificate III in Roof Tiling

Entry pathway Entry to this occupation is by way of an apprenticeship or contract of training. Although no minimum educational standard is required for entry to apprenticeships most people entering this occupation have undertaken Year 10 or higher. Apprentices must be employed before enrolling for trade classes and they must be at least 16 years of age.



An Australian Government Initiative



Job prospects Many roof tilers are self-employed or work for small companies that supply and fix roofs. They are usually sub-contracted to the roofing manufacturers on a semi-permanent basis. Many tilers are directly employed by manufacturing companies. Tilers are also employed by state, territory or local government bodies concerned with public works.

The vacancy level for Roof Tilers is moderate. Vacancies arising from job changing (Roof Tilers changing employers) are expected to provide 53 per cent of vacancies, compared with 41 per cent from job openings (Roof Tilers leaving the occupation) and 6 per cent from new jobs

Specialisation Tilers may specialise in tiling new roofs, repairing existing roofs or removing old roofs and replacing them.

Related Jobs Roof Fixer

Further information

- Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]
- Group Training Australia [www.gtald.com.au/]