

# Metal Roof Plumber



**Alternate title** Roof Plumber, Steel Roofer

**Description** A Roof plumber's scope of work covers:

- structures with metal, polycarbonate, fibreglass, glass, malthoid sheets, and waterproof membranes;
- Install roof mesh, insulation, gutters and downpipes.
- Flashing roof penetrations.
- Installing roof safety systems and walkways.
- Connecting roof discharge to rainwater collection systems
- Install rainwater tanks
- Install rainwater detention devices.
- Terminate rainwater drainage to street kerb or authorities' stormwater drainage network.

Roof plumbers' 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 and in preventing sunburn (skin damage).

**Typical duties**

- prepare and/or study drawings and specifications to work out the installation requirements of roof plumbing systems and materials needed;
- assess risks;
- erect scaffolding and use elevated work platforms;
- correctly space and fasten battens or top hat across the roof rafters/purlins on which the roof sheeting will be fixed to;
- Install safety mesh, insulation, roof sheeting; design, fabricate and install flashings;
- test work as required by local authority regulations or work specification;
- install equipment pumps, water tanks;
- maintain and repair roofing and roof plumbing systems;
- clear the roof of debris when the job is finished.

**Personal requirements**

- enjoy practical work;
- good hand-eye coordination;
- able to work in a team and independently;
- able to work at heights and in various weather conditions;
- physically fit;
- good interpersonal skills;
- good mobility.

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- Qualification**
- Certificate III Plumbing; or
  - Certificate III in Roof Plumbing (you may need to check on the availability of this qualification in your state)

**Entry pathway** Entry to this occupation is generally through an apprenticeship which includes on and off-the-job training. This will generally require successful completion of Year 10 or equivalent.

Firstly, you will need to do some work experience so that you know what the job is about. If you think it's for you, find an employer that is looking for an apprentice roof plumber. You will then become an apprentice roof plumber after a probationary period and you will need to complete a certificate III in roof plumbing at a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Some people may complete a pre-apprenticeship course before entering an apprenticeship.

**Job prospects** Most roof plumbers are employed by roof plumbing firms that do a range of roof plumbing and repair work. Roof plumbers may also be self-employed.

Usually demand is linked with activity in the construction industry. However, unlike other building trades, downturns in building activity may have less effect on roof plumbers because of the work available in renovation and maintenance.

Roof plumbers can specialise and obtain skills that are transportable to other job prospects.

- Specialisations**
- Vent installer
  - Skylight installer
  - Roofing fabricator
  - Heritage roof restorer

**Related Jobs** Roof Fixer

- Further information**
- Metal Roofing and Cladding Association of Australia Ltd [[www.mrcaa.com.au](http://www.mrcaa.com.au)]
  - Group Training Australia [[www.gtaltd.com.au/](http://www.gtaltd.com.au/)]

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