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A Brief Overview of Different Roofing Materials by Alison Mckenzie

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All over the world, people use different roofing materials for their homes depending on prevailing architectural and cultural traditions, economic means, and practical considerations. For instance, a lot of traditional structures were once roofed with clay, slate, or ceramic tiles. Some indigenous peoples still build houses with thatched roofs. Meanwhile, some modern roofs feature a combination of steel and glass for optimum lighting and to promote an airy, sophisticated feel.

Tile roofing is one of the oldest roofing material types and was very popular in the ancient world. These tiles are usually made of clay or concrete and come in a wide variety of shapes, colors, and finishes. Red tiles were once the materials of choice for most builders. Roofing contractors, however, remind that tile roofing is heavier than most and rely on robust structural support.

These days, asphalt shingles--available in organic and fiberglass variantsâ€”count among the most popular roofing materials. Asphalt shingles are waterproof, windproof, and fire resistant, and are available in minimally textured three-tab as well as heavily textured multi-layer styles. Nearly four out of every five homes in the United States are fitted with asphalt shingles.

For people who like to keep things natural and rustic, wooden shakes and shingles are the best deal. These are usually made of redwood, cedar, or pine. Take note, however, that wooden shakes would have to undergo fireproofing treatment and require a bit more maintenance than the other roofing materials. They also change color over time and may need to be replaced.

For a sleek look worthy of the Beehive State, slate roofing is the way to go. Slate tiles are made of natural mined stone, are available in various sizes and colors, and are considered the heaviest of all roofing materials. The best thing about slate roofing is that it is close to being indestructible. However, as any Park City roofing contractor would agree, it is the most expensive.

Of all roofing materials, metal is considered the best choice for steep pitched roofs. They come in sheets and shingles and in a wide array of colors, too. According to roofing contractors Salt Lake City residents trust, metal roofing is lightweight, fire resistant, and treated to be rustproof.

Every roofing material serves a specific aesthetic and functional need and may be more suitable in certain climates than others. Find out more in-depth details as well as some information on roofing contractors Utah residents trust by visiting roofing.com.

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Alison Mckenzie - About Author:
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