Different Types of Flat Roofs for Commercial Buildings

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Flat roofs are becoming popular in both residential and commercial buildings. The latter seems to make the most out of these roofs because of their several benefits. Flat roofs are durable, weatherproof, and cost effective. What's even better is that they come in different types, providing commercial establishments several options for their roofs. The common types of flat roofs commercial buildings may have include metal flat-seam roofing, built-up roofing, modified bitumen roofing, and EPDM roofing.

Metal flat-seam roofing

Commercial buildings often use this type of roofing because of its aesthetic effect and durability. Metal flat-seam roofing is composed of small metal sheets that are bonded to make them appear like tiles or shingles. The good thing about this roof is its weight and energy-efficiency. Compared to other flat roofs, metal flat-seamed roof is lighter because of its lightweight materials. It can also easily reflect light, preventing too much heat from entering the building. What's even better is that metal-seamed roof can be made from durable metals like copper, stainless steel, or lead-coated copper.

Built-Up roofing (BUR)

Unlike a metal-seamed flat roof, a built-up roof is made from layers of tar, asphalt, or fiberglass membranes. On the surface, stone or gravel is evenly spread out to make the roof look attractive. Built-up roof, also called BUR, is famous for its cost-effectiveness. The layers of fiberglass and hot tar make it durable and weatherproof. It also provides the building protection from UV rays of the sun, making it an ideal choice for establishments found in hot climates.

Single-ply roofing

A single-ply roof is composed of one layer of polyvinyl chloride or another plastic material. Since this type of roofing only has a single layer, it's thinner and lighter than other roofing types. Despite its weight and thinness, single-ply roof is a common installment in commercial roofing Houston because of its exceptional resistance to heat. With proper installation and maintenance, a single-ply roof can last for as long as 30 years.

EPDM roofing

EPDM is a rubber-like substance that Houston commercial roofing contractors use. This is one of the oldest single-ply materials used in both residential and commercial buildings. EPDM roofing offers several advantages: ease of installation, cost-effectiveness, and weather-resistance. The downside EPDM is that most companies do not offer warranties for this type of roofing.

Modified Bitumen roofing

Modified bitumen is composed mainly of melted asphalt applied on fiberglass sheets. This type of roofing is easy to maintain, energy-efficient, and affordable. The surface reflects the rays of the sun, preventing heat from entering the building. What's even better is that Houston roofers can install this on existing flat roofs, making the installation an easier process.

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