

Use the right tools when reroofing house

Reroofing your house an impossible task? Not at all.

With planning, patience, the right tools, and some easy-to-follow safety precautions, reroofing your house can be a less expensive, satisfying project for the do-ityourselfer.

First, make a visual inspection from the ground. Walk around the house, checking for damaged shingles or those that have aged or have lost their original luster.

Also check for corroded or obstructed gutters and valleys, loose or rusted flashing, damage or wear along ends and ridges and signs of water seepage under the eaves. It may help to use binoculars to see those very high or difficult-to-see

YOUR NEXT STEP should be to pull or pound down any protruding nails, and nail down any loose shingles. Replace any missing or broken shingles and damaged gutters and drip caps at the eaves.

If you've determined you house needs a new roof, first sweep the area clean of any debris or loose mineral granules. If there are more than two layers of roofing on the roof or if the old roof is in very bad repair, tear off the old shinges to the wood deck adding new felt, then the shingles.

You may be able to put a third layer of new shingles on your roof. Check with your local government to be sure the housing code allows a third layer.

If you are removing existing shingles, you'll need waterproof tarps or large pieces of plastic should rain come up before you have put on the new shingles.

The tools you'll need to reroof your house are those found in most do-it-yourself workshops: Broom, carpenter's apron, caulking gun, chalkline, chisel and saw, flat shovel, hammer or roofer's hatchet, ladder and scaffolding, putty knife, paint-ing trowel or brush, safety goggles, tape ruler and a utility knife.

Wear rubbersoled shoes and always work on a completely dry roof. Always wear a safety rope or harness that has been well secured to an immovable object on the opposite side of the roof.

Be sure to keep extra tools and shingles well out of the work area when not in use. Warn others to stay away from the grounds around the eaves because shingels or tools could slide off the roof and injure someone.
USE AN EXTENSION ladder at least

two feet longer than the height of the eaves, and make sure it has safety feet that grab and hold hirmly. Never use a ladder near power lines, and don't forget to tie it off at the eaves and with stake and line at the ground.

Now you're ready to start the hard work: Applying the shingles, nailing them down, adding the flashing, shingling the valleys, hips and ridges and around the chimney.

It's important to follow the manufacturer's application instructions, found on the shingle wrappers, which differ from one type of rooting to another.



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