



A roofing contract should specify brand name of roofing materials, time schedule, financial arrangements and warranty.

Learn lingo of reroofing

When it's time to reroof, be able to speak knowledgeably by learning roofing terms passed on by the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturer's Association.

- A square is the unit of measurement for roofing material. One square equals the amount of roofing material required to cover a 10-foot by 10-foot area.
- Coverage refers to the degree of

weather protection provided by the roofing material. Coverage can be single, double or triple.

- Exposure is the distance from the butt edge of one line of shingles to the butt edge of the next line of shingles above.

- The deck is the roof surface to which the roofing material is applied.

Get started on planting

If you think Memorial Day weekend marks the beginning of the outdoor gardening season, think again. You could actually be harvesting produce from your garden by then if you put cool-weather crops in this month.

Leo Taylor, extension horticulture specialist at Michigan State University, says a number of crops can be planted as soon as the soil is dry enough to work and harvested by the end of May. These include beets for greens, spinach, lettuce, radishes, carrots, green onions, Swiss chard and peas.

You could also be harvesting cucumbers, beans, summer squash, and tomatoes around the Fourth of July if

you use what Taylor calls "season extenders" to get warm-season crops off to a quick start.

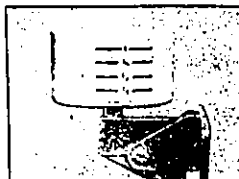
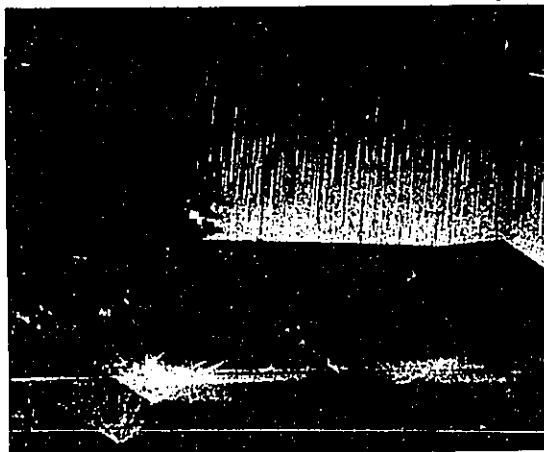
Season extenders include black plastic — for warming the soil — and tents, plastic milk jugs, hot cups and fiberglass tunnels for protecting tender seedlings against late frost.

Warming the soil for beans, squash, cucumbers and other warm-season crops grown from seed is important to an early start because these seeds simply will not germinate if soil temperatures are much below 60 degrees.

Warming the soil also helps tomato, pepper and eggplant transplants get established quickly.

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