Technical Bulletin

Installation Guidelines for Interlocking Concrete Tiles

ISSUED: OCTOBER 15, 2026

Preparation and Placement of Interlocking Concrete Tiles

The installation of interlocking concrete tiles is generally a straightforward process when appropriate attention is paid to both preparation and the execution of necessary tasks. Once the coursing is carefully measured and marked, the tiles typically align well, regardless of whether they are placed on battens or attached directly to the roof deck.



Importance of Proper Installation Technique

Nonetheless, there is a degree of technique required during installation that may be overlooked if the installer proceeds too quickly or without sufficient care. Approaching the process in a hasty manner—such as rapidly placing tiles and adjusting them forcefully—can result in improper installation. This practice can cause the tiles to fit together in a way that risks damaging them or prevents them from aligning according to the manufacturer's specifications.

One of the most commonly observed issues in such cases is **damage to the bottom corner of the cover lock portion of the tile,** which is often the thinnest and thus most vulnerable section.



Tile Alignment and Manufacturer Specifications

Forcing tiles tightly together longitudinally does not always cause immediate breakage; however, it increases the likelihood of damage from foot traffic or thermal movement of the roof deck. To mitigate this risk, most manufacturers incorporate an **intended shunt—a specified gap that should be maintained between adjacent tiles.** This feature is typically achieved through an interlock design that allows a controlled amount of vertical movement. In most products, this shunt measures approximately **1/16 of an inch**, but **some designs may require up to 1/4 inch.**



Perfect Shunt Spacing

Maintaining the Shunt and Ensuring Roof Deck Levelness

It is essential for installers to recognize the importance of maintaining this shunt during installation. Additionally, **providing a level roof deck is crucial,** as any irregularities in the roofline, such as deck deflection can affect tile alignment, especially with profile tiles that depend on precise vertical positioning.

For more information on roof deck deflection, please reference the *Deck Deflection under Concrete Tile Roof Systems* Technical Bulletin on **eagleroofing.com.**

For more information, contact your local Eagle Account Representative by visiting eagleroofing.com.