Technical Bulletin
Mortar Cracking

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In Florida, the use of **cement mortars** for weather blocking in roof tiles is a common and code-compliant practice that helps achieve the desired aesthetic while providing necessary weatherproofing. The mortar serves to close open gaps between tiles and acts as a weather barrier, as required by local codes. However, **due to Florida's unique environmental factors, the mortar can be susceptible to cracking.**



Florida's climate, characterized by high humidity, intense UV exposure, and extreme temperature fluctuations, can increase the potential for cracking in mortar. *These conditions cause the cementitious materials to expand and contract, which may lead to stress and cracking over time.*

Although cracking in mortar weather blocking typically does not affect overall performance, it is **essential to monitor the condition of the mortar,** particularly to ensure it does not become dislodged. The style of installation-whether a full bead or small balls in the point-up method-is also an important factor in its long-term effectiveness.

To help mitigate cracking, the use of **high-quality, non-shrinking mortars** specifically formulated to withstand Florida's challenging weather conditions is recommended. Additionally, **proper installation techniques,** including ensuring adequate bonding and proper curing, are vital to extending the longevity and performance of the mortar. **Regular maintenance and inspection of roof tiles** can help identify early signs of mortar deterioration, allowing for timely intervention before more significant issues arise.

If mortar cracks appear to compromise the integrity of the mortar to remain in place, or creates gaps, a qualified roofing professional should be consulted to consider a proper replacement. Minor cracking, for aesthetic reasons and preventing further cracking can be skim coated, caulked, or painted with mortar compatible oxide alternatives.

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