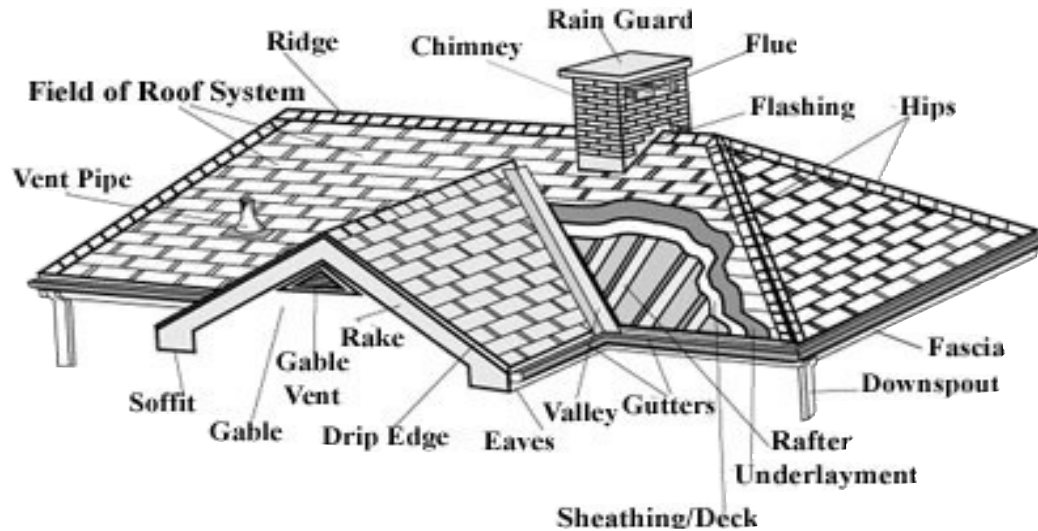


# Roofing Terminology for Homeowners



## Built-up Roof

A low-slope (or flat-seeming) roof covered with alternating layers of roofing felt and hot-mapped asphalt and topped off with a layer of gravel.

## Cornice

The portion of the roof projecting out from the side walls of the house.

## Counterflashing

The flashing which is imbedded at its top in a wall or other vertical structure and is lapped down over shingle flashing.

## Courses

Horizontal rows of shingles or tiles.

## Drip

The strip of metal extending out beyond the eaves or rakes to prevent rainwater from rolling around the shingles back onto the wooden portion of the house.

## Eaves

The lower edge of a roof (usually overhanging beyond the edge of the house).

## Fascia

Trimboard behind the gutter and eaves.

## Flashing

Sheet metal or other material used at junctions of different planes on a roof to prevent leakage.

## Felt

The "tar paper" used by roofer, usually made of a combination of asphalt and either paper or rags.

**Frieze Board**

A Board at the top of the house's siding, forming a corner with the soffit.

**Gable**

The triangular upper part of a wall closing the end of a ridged roof

**Hip**

The external angle at the junction of two sides of a roof whose supporting walls adjoin.

**Joist**

In a flat roof, a horizontal structural member over which sheathing is nailed.

**Rafter**

A structural member (usually slanted) to which sheathing is nailed.

**Rake**

The slanting edge of a gabled roof extending beyond the end wall of the house.

**Ridge**

The horizontal line at the top edge of two sloping roof planes.

**Sheathing**

The rigid material (often 1-inch by 6-inch or one inch by twelve inch boards or sheets of plywood) which is nailed to the rafters, and to which shingles or other outside roofing materials are secured.

**Shingle Flashing**

Flashing that is laid in strips under each shingle and bent up the edge of a chimney or wall.

**Slope**

The number of inches of vertical rise in a roof per 12-inches of horizontal distance. Also referred to as pitch.

**Soffit**

The boards that enclose the underside of that portion of the roof which extends out beyond the sidewalls of the house.

**Square**

One hundred square feet of roof, or the amount of roofing material needed to cover 100 square feet when properly applied.

**Underlayment**

The material (usually roofing felt) laid on top of sheathing before shingles are applied.

**Valley**

The less-than 180-degree angle where two sloping roof sections come together.

**Valley Flashing**

The flashing in valleys, extending in under to shingles on both sides.