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Solve your roofing problems by [Randy Kearns](#)

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Often homeowners take their roof for granted. The only time that the homeowner truly sees its imperfections is when it starts to fail and water starts dripping through the ceilings.

The roofs structure and materials become weaker over time. There a huge range of stuff to think about when putting a roof on an existing or new house or structure. Personal taste, particular weather conditions within the area and most importantly budget will all affect the choice of roofing.

Functionality comes low on the list of homeowners priorities, most choose a roof because of personal taste and budget. Although most people have an idea what materials they are going to use for the task, some are just too unrealistic for the application and weathering factors. And from time to time homeowners are misinformed by salesmen promoting the best sale on their own behalf.

For a natural feel, wooden shakes are available on the market. A shake is a basic wooden shingle that is made from split logs. Changing in colour over the years from light brown to soft grey, shakes are averagely costly and involve high maintenance to achieve both aesthetics and functionality. Wooden shakes can last a lifetime with regular maintenance, although they should be treated to become fireproof.

Another reliable roofing material to use is slate. Lasting a generation, slates are very hardy, however they can be very heavy and could demand added expensive support. Slate is fire resistant and has an extremely low water absorption index. It is very resistant to frost damage and breakage due to freezing because of its low tendency to absorb water.

If you ask any roofing company they will tell you that the most widely used choice of roofing is asphalt shingles. Asphalt shingles are covered in granules and either has a rustic or smooth look to them. Asphalt shingles will not necessarily meet the homeowners aesthetic standards even though they are inexpensive and very effortless to mend.

Clay or plastic finish roof tiles are exceedingly popular. Roofing tiles are so popular because they are virtually maintenance-free. Clay roof tiles and concrete tiles are a popular roofing material as they are hard-wearing and fireproof and generally last a lifetime. Clay is so versatile and handmade clay roof tiles give a look and effect to your property that cannot be copied with any other roofing product. They come in all sorts of sizes, colours and shapes which make them tricky to install, therefore it is wise to take advice from professionals.

There is a vast range of roofing products out on the market today, so that you can make the correct decision first time it is worth researching the pros and cons of each. Homeowners should not put budget as a priority in their decison, the roof needs to match the look and feel of the home.

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