

Are Roof Shingles the Best Choice for Your New Roof?

Roof shingles are the best choice for your **new roof** if you want an affordable option that offers a classic look and straightforward installation. They also provide a wide range of styles and colors, making it easier to match your home's design.

According to the Lumber and Building Material Journal, out of all roofing materials used in the US, asphalt shingles account for 75%. That number shows how much homeowners trust shingles for both value and performance.

You want a roof that not only shields your home but also adds curb appeal. Keep reading to see if shingles are the right choice for your next roof project.

Advantages of Roof Shingles

Roof shingles offer practical benefits that make them a strong option for many homeowners. The following are the main advantages:

Affordable

One of the key benefits of new roofing is finding a material that balances cost and performance, and shingles do that well. They are ***less expensive than metal, tile, or slate, and installation is faster***, which lowers labor costs.

Thus, you can replace your roof without a substantial financial hit. Repairs are also budget-friendly since you can fix small sections instead of replacing the entire roof.

Noise Reduction

A **new roof** with shingles can make your home noticeably quieter. The layered design helps soften the sound of rain, which is common in Seattle and Tacoma.

It also reduces outside noise from traffic or nearby activity. The extra peace indoors is a real benefit, especially when you're looking to relax or focus on something.

Versatile

Shingles are versatile, which makes them easy to fit into many home improvement ideas. They come in a wide range of options, giving you freedom to choose what works best for your home. You can pick from:

- Different colors
- Various shapes
- Textures that mimic wood or slate

Such flexibility means your roof can protect your home while matching your style.

Energy Efficient

Some roof shingles are ***built to reflect sunlight***, which helps keep your home cooler in the summer. Others are made with ***better insulation***, reducing heat loss during colder months. Both features lower the strain on your heating and cooling systems.

Over time, you get smaller utility bills and a more comfortable home. Choosing energy-efficient shingles is a smart way to save money long term.

Disadvantages of Roof Shingles

While shingles offer many strengths, they also come with certain drawbacks that homeowners should weigh carefully. Here are some disadvantages to consider:

Limited Longevity

In a roof type comparison involving durability, shingles usually trail other options. Most ***shingles need replacement after 15 to 30 years***. Other options last longer, including:

- Metal roofs last 40 to 50 years
- Tile roofs last 50 years or more
- Slate roofs last 75 to 100 years

Choosing shingles means planning for another roof sooner compared to other materials.

Weather Vulnerability

Shingles are more likely to suffer damage during severe weather. ***Heavy rain, strong winds, and hail often loosen or crack them***. In the Puget Sound region, strong

windstorms can lift or tear shingles.

Once water gets through, it can spread into the structure of your home. If those problems aren't fixed early, your roof replacement cost rises because minor repairs turn into major work.

How Many Layers of Shingles on a New Roof

Most homes should only have **one layer of shingles**. Adding a second layer is sometimes allowed, but it often hides damage underneath and adds extra weight to your roof.

In wet areas like Puget Sound, trapped moisture between layers can speed up rot and shorten the life of your roof. One of the best [roof installation tips](#) is to strip old shingles before adding new ones.

What Are the Longest Lasting Shingles for a Roof

If you want a **new roof** that lasts, not all shingles perform the same. Asphalt shingles are the most common, but they usually last 15 to 30 years.

Cedar shingles can last longer, often 30 to 40 years. However, they need [regular maintenance](#) in wet climates to prevent moss and rot. **Metal and slate shingles stand out for durability**, often protecting a home for 50 years or more when installed correctly.

Choosing Shingles for Your New Roof

Shingles remain a trusted option because they are affordable, reduce outside noise, offer design flexibility, and improve energy efficiency. On the other hand, they have a shorter lifespan than some materials and are more vulnerable in severe weather. Knowing these trade-offs helps you decide if shingles are the right choice for your **new roof**.

At Tristate Roofing, we've been serving the community with trusted roofing solutions since 2004. **Our A+ accreditation from the Better Business Bureau reflects proven trust and quality.** [Call us today](#) to schedule your roofing project with confidence.

FAQ

How Can You Extend the Lifespan of Roof Shingles?

You can extend the life of your shingles with regular upkeep. Keep the surface clear of moss, leaves, and other debris, since buildup traps moisture and weakens the material.

Schedule inspections so minor issues are fixed before they spread. Clean gutters often to make sure water drains away from your roof.

If you're planning on getting a new roof, choose quality shingles and professional installation. Both add years of reliable protection.

Do Roof Shingles Tear Easily?

Yes, some roof shingles can tear easily, especially when they are older or made from thinner materials. Asphalt shingles are the most prone to ripping in high winds or when they become brittle with age. Heavier options, like architectural shingles or slate, are much stronger and resist tearing.

Damage also happens if people walk on a worn roof. Regular inspections and quick repairs help reduce the risk of shingles tearing. Choosing higher-quality shingles at the start also lowers the chance of early damage.

What Is the Long-Term Problem With Shingles?

The biggest long-term problem with shingles is that they wear out faster than many other roofing materials. Over time, exposure to sun, rain, and wind causes them to crack, curl, or lose protective granules.

Once that happens, water can seep underneath and damage the roof deck. Repairs may keep things going for a while, but eventually the entire roof needs replacement. For homeowners, this means shingles often bring higher lifetime costs compared to longer-lasting materials like metal or slate.