

Flex Vent Installation Guide

Many roofers are now using Flex Vent under the hip and ridge caps in a tile roof application. This is a very sensible alternative to mortar as it greatly improves the top ventilation of the roof. Flex Vent is a vented aluminum roll material with a peel and stick butyl fastening strip on each underside - it is available through Unicrete in either 11" wide (for slate profile) or 13" wide (for Estate profile) rolls, both of which are 25' long. It has a free air flow vent specification of 10sq. in. per ft. and so for every 15' of vented ridge area it will satisfy 1 sq. ft. of ventilation requirements. It is often used to replace the more traditional roof vents that give 35" to 40" of free ventilation space and therefore require 3 or 4 vents for each sq. ft. of ventilation area. It has the added advantage of improving the vented rain screen area between the top of the sheathing membrane and the bottom of the tile and thus helps promote attic area cooling. This also works well for hips where it combines with the bottom vented starter flashing to make the rain screen air flow more efficient.

Follow these application instructions when installing Flex Vent.

General: Tile must be dry with zero moisture for installation.

For cold weather applications please see below.

Flex Vent should overlap the tile by 2".

- Step 1: **Thoroughly** clean the surface of the tile where the butyl will adhere.
- Step 2: Center Flex Vent on top of roof nailing board. Staple or nail Flex Vent every 12 inches down hip or ridge nailing board.
- Step 3: Form Flex Vent to tile roof surface. Take care that ventilation area does not press too tight to surface nailing board preventing proper airflow. Install Flex Vent from top of hip to eave. **Stretch the product to work it down to the lowest part of the tile (it will stretch up to 30%). Forming Flex Vent to the proper shape of the tile is the primary force securing the product.**
- Step 4: Remove protective strip from adhesive tape.
- Step 5: Press Flex Vent into pans of each tile. Ensure that the edge area of Flex Vent is thoroughly pressed to tile for optimal adhesion.
- Step 6: Cut off excess amount of Flex Vent at end of hip or ridge with knife or sheet metal shears. The excess material can be used on the next project.

Cold Weather Applications:

Flex Vent can be installed in cold weather applications (below freezing) as outlined above, with the following provisions.

1. Flex Vent rolls must be kept warm until used. (Store in heated vehicle or inside the house being tiled).
2. All ice, snow, and moisture in the area to be covered with Flex Vent should be physically removed by sweeping away and then dried, if needed. Drying can be accomplished with a heat gun. Observe all fire safety measures and have a fire extinguisher on hand.
3. If extra adhesion is required, use the TRA recommended spray adhesive. Use proper spray application procedures as spray product is flammable.

By using these application methods, Flex Vent can be successfully installed throughout the entire year, including cold weather conditions.

For additional information on Unicrete Concrete Roof Tiles please contact the Unicrete office.