



The use of dentil slips in bedded hips and ridges

Introduction

Dentil slips are used in the dishes of roofing tiles where there is deep bed of mortar, to reduce the risk of cracking or slumping of the mortar. BS 5534: The British Standard Code of practice for slating and tiling, recommends that gaps in the troughs of the tiles greater than 25mm should be filled with dentil slips or tile sections and be fully bedded in mortar.

Installation

For the mortar joint to be effective the mortar must be fully in contact with the tile and the ridge tile. The dentil slip can be either fully inserted into the mortar or can be left partially exposed to create a decorative feature. When the dentil slip is left partially exposed it is not necessary to bed it along its entire length, provided there is a mortar bed between the dentil and the tile, directly beneath the ridge tile.

For aesthetic reasons visible dentil slips are often omitted from the hip bedding. Although the use of dentil slips is referred to in BS 5534 not all roofing contractors install them. But, provided that the bedding of the ridges or hips has been carried out successfully, ie without slumping and cracking taking place, then the durability of the ridge or hip joint should not be adversely affected.

Mechanical fixing

Please note: Sandtoft recommends that all ridge and hip tiles should be mechanically fixed. On a mortar bedded ridge or hip, this means that some form of mechanical fixing, such as nails, screws or clips, etc, should be used in addition to the mortar bedding.

For more information please contact Sandtoft Technical Support on 0870 145 2021.

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