9. FLASHINGS AND COPINGS

- 9.1. Through-Wall Flashing
- 9.2. Counterflashing
- 9.3. Coping Covers
- 9.4. Ridges and Hips
- 9.5. Valleys
- 9.6. Changes in Roof Slopes
- 9.7. Gravel Stops and Fascias
- 9.8. Stepped and Chimney Flashings
- 9.9. Roof Penetrations
- 9.10. Dormers
- 9.11. Eave Snow Flashing
- 9.12. Eave Conditions
- 9.13. Roof Area Divider

Introduction

Most modern construction materials are fairly resistant to moisture penetration. However, many joints between masonry units, panels, or architectural features are not. The effects of natural movement due to settlement, expansion, and contraction tend to compound the problems and may eventually lead to leaks. Flashing is used to prevent moisture from entering at such locations. It is also used to divert to the exterior moisture that has already entered various components of a structure.



HOMETIME, the nationally-syndicated DIY program on PBS, recently aired an episode demonstrating how to install a timber shed roof and explained the importance of using copper flashing. Host Dean Johnson goes through the steps of why and how copper flashing is laid down before installing the roof tiles. The segment also addresses copper's high resistance to corrosion and moisture, as well as its use to extend the life of a roofing system. This video is available at https://youtu.be/GJ4GI9Ykj0E.

Moisture that penetrates into a building may cause serious damage to its interior. In freezing temperatures, it can also cause severe damage to the exterior of the building. Cracking, spalling, and disintegration can result. Over a long period of time, moisture can also weaken structural elements.

Copper is an excellent material for flashing because of its malleability, strength, and high resistance to the caustic effects of mortars and hostile environments. Flashing, in general, is expensive to replace if it fails. The long life copper flashing offers, is a major asset in this application.