

A secure and well-maintained roof means more than just your physical comfort. It symbolizes the entire concept of domestic shelter and psychological well being. One of life's basic necessities, along with food and clothing, is "a roof over one's head".

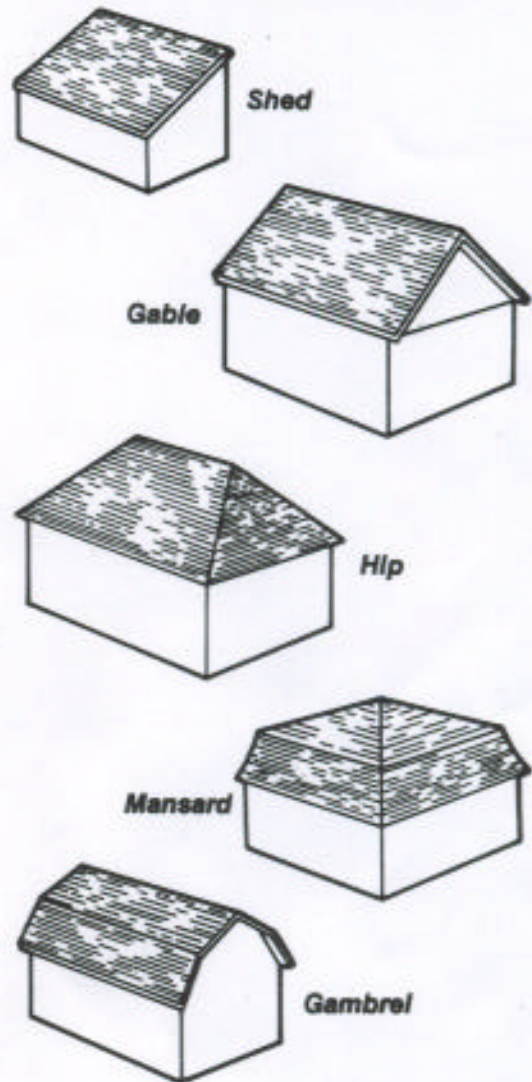
Yet most homeowners pay little or no attention to their roof — until it leaks. Even then, repairs are often put off until the problem is too great to be ignored.

Roof leaks, though, are more than just annoyances that must be remedied. They can be the cause of severe internal structural damage which is more difficult — and more costly — to repair.

Periodic maintenance, on the other hand, is both simple and relatively inexpensive. All it takes is some basic information and a little conscientiousness.

Please remember that roofing is dangerous work, and is best left to the professionals. If you feel capable of doing it yourself, be sure to follow the safety guidelines discussed later in this brochure.

While all roofs perform the same function, they do so in a number of different styles. A single house may embody one or more of these styles:



THE BASIC FACTS

All roofs have five basic components:

- (1) **sheathing:** the boards or sheet material which are fastened to the roof rafters to cover the house,
- (2) **roof covering:** shingles, tiles or sheets which protect the sheathing from the weather,
- (3) **roof structure:** the rafters and trusses constructed to support the sheathing,
- (4) **drainage:** the features of the roof's design, such as shape, slope, layout, etc., which affect its ability to shed water, and
- (5) **flashing:** sheet metal or other material laid into the various joints and valleys of the roof to prevent water seepage.

