

SAFE PROPPING FOR ROOF WORKERS

The Australian Roofing Tile Association (ARTA) is the peak body representing the concerns and interests of more than 90% of the roofing tile industry in Australia.

QUICK CHECKLIST

Ensure that essential equipment and conditions are checked before conducting work on the roof:

ACROW PROPS & PINE PROPS

- Top fixation
- Bottom fixation and base plate
- Spacing and bracing, adequate number of props*
- Equipment condition (eg. no wants and wanes)
- All equipment included (eg. acrow pins)
- No bends
- No prop inclination (keep vertical)
- Props placed along centreline of timber
- Nails in plates/plates studded to members as required
- All corners to be directly supported



Load Distribution via Timber Frame

Vertically Upright Perpendicular to Ground and Roof

Even and Stable Ground Condition

Fixed Bottom with Base Plate and Correct Bolting

ARTA RECOMMENDATIONS

The responsible person should prepare a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) prior to starting. For further information regarding the SWMS, consult resources with SafeWork Australia.

At a minimum, all propping set-ups should be checked at least twice a day.

Propping should be inspected by a competent person and site manager at least once a week.

During the installation of roof tiles, avoid stacking construction materials onto props. If temporary stacking is required, the rated loads for the propping system must not be exceeded.

Rated loads for any propping system should be made available on site and communicated to all workers.

PINE PROPS

Inappropriate use or installation of temporary pine props is the most pressing safety concern relating to the installation of roofs. It is important for you to keep an eye out for:

The use of correct fixings to secure temporary props.

Appropriately placed nails, bolts and screws at joints based on the supervisor's instructions.

The proper fastening of connections and apply strong jerks on the joints to test this. The sufficient bracing of members, strutting and that the arrangement does not and cannot move laterally (sideways).

ACROW PROPS

Place prop on sole plate on even ground and secure.

Lift inner-tube to approximate height required. The outer-tube is kept steady by placing foot on base-plate.

Insert pin through slot through outer tube passing through the adjacent hole in inner tube.

Turn handle of nut for final adjustment, ensuring prop is straight.

Fix 2 to 4 nails in top and bottom plates and bend over to avoid movement.

REFERENCES Roof installation works should be constructed in compliance with applicable regulations and legislation.

All personnel on site have a legal obligation to notify WHS of any notifiable workplace incidents, including any dangerous incident that exposes any person to a serious risk, even if no one is injured.

If a notifiable incident occurs the minimum legal requirements as specified by SWA are that:

- The regulator must be notified;
- Written notification to be provided within 48 hours if requested by regulator; and
- Work is discontinued, and the site preserved until a regulator conducts their investigation.

An exemption to this rule is made when aiding injured personnel on site and making the site safe. * Refer to AS 1684 Residential Timber Framed Construction for further guidance.



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Install head and base screw jacks with timber sole plates if ground is uneven

The props are placed perpendicular to the ground

Adjustment pin is in place (Acrow Prop)

Stable ground condition

