

Can solar be installed on clay tiled roofs?

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Clay tile roofs, which are common in the American southwest, can be a challenge for solar installers. While they have cultural significance and longevity, installing solar panels on them has historically been more expensive and risky than other roof types.

Can a tile roof handle solar panels?

If you have a tile roof and are considering solar energy, you might be wondering whether your roof can handle solar panels. Tile roofs, especially lightweight cement or clay tiles, are beautiful and durable but also delicate. Unlike asphalt shingles, they can crack easily under pressure, which makes solar installation a bit more challenging.

How do you install solar panels on a tile roof?

To install solar panels on a tile roof, solar installers attach solar racks by taking out individual tiles and cutting or drilling small holes in them. Alternatively, they place similarly shaped tiles in between the rows of panels to maintain a neat appearance.

Why is installing solar on clay-tiled roofs more expensive?

Until recently, installing solar on clay-tiled roofs has been a more expensive and risky endeavor than other roof types, like composite shingle or metal. This is because tiles are relatively expensive, fragile, and removing them to install roof mounts for solar panels can open up the seal of your roof to water damage.

Are solar panels on clay roofs worth it?

Installing solar panels on clay roofs is more expensive due to the complexity of the installation. However, it may still be worth considering if you're willing to pay extra for energy independence. Use the calculator to see how much you can save with a solar installation on your clay roof.

Can solar panels be installed on lightweight tiles?

If installers attempt to mount solar panels directly onto lightweight tiles, several issues can arise: Tile breakage: Walking on or drilling through these tiles can cause cracks or breaks, which may lead to roof leaks and structural damage.

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