

TapcoSlate Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How is it fixed?

A. Galvanised steel nails driven through the slate, either manually or by nail gun, or outdoor Philips Bugle screws again either manually or electric screwdriver/screw gun. No drilling, clipping or hooks required.

Q. How many are needed. What's the coverage?

A. Depends on the pitch of the roof, please see our Measuring Guide.

Q. How shallow a pitch can they be used on?

A. 14 degrees (on a fully-boarded or felt and battened roof). This is very useful for extensions and other applications where the available roof slope may be limited.

Q. Why are they curved? A natural slate is flat.

A. This is intentional. The induced camber flattens and creates a tight fit when nailed in situ.

Q. Is an eaves (soldier course) needed?

A. Yes. Standard slating principles apply.

Q. Does TapcoSlate have third-party accreditation?

A. Yes. BBA, ETA (CE) and LABC certified. Copies readily available for download on this website.

Q. How are the ridges/hips fixed?

A. Nailed/screwed in situ and overlapped. Dry-fix system much more secure than a bedded ridge. Cement does not adhere well to TapcoSlate.

Q. Is it colourfast or does it fade or go white?

A. No. TapcoSlate is UV stable, through-coloured and has a 40-year Warranty. It will weather, as does any roof covering, depending on location and exposure.

Q. How is it cut?

A. Fine-toothed saw, disc cutter, or it can be scored and snapped with a utility knife.

Q. Will moss/algae grow on TapcoSlate?

A. Once again, this depends on the location and exposure of the site. Algae grows better on a laminar material, TapcoSlate is not laminar. To deter growth, if this is happening, string a copper wire across the length of the ridge.

Q. Is it a “green” recycled product? What’s it made from?

A. It’s not recycled... but it’s RECYCLABLE. TapcoSlate is made from limestone and virgin polypropylene. Consequently, there is greater control over the mix and the manufacturing process. The main problems experienced with using reclaimed, inconsistent raw materials are due to the lack of control in the manufacturing process which can result in splitting, curling, etc. There are no such problems with TapcoSlate.

Q. How is it packaged/delivered?

A. Individually strap-banded bundles of 25 slates... 1600 per pallet (or less). There is a delivery charge depending on location.

Q. Can it be used for vertical cladding?

A. Yes. Although our fire certification covers roofing and not cladding, it is advisable to install a fire barrier behind the tiles for vertical cladding due to current legislation.