



FLAT ROOFING SUPPLIES &
ROOFLIGHTS LTD

Safety Information



Flat roofs are dangerous places

Installing flat roof edge profiles, rooflights and other flat roof accessories - in common with most other roofing projects - is highly skilled work that requires professional training and sufficient levels of practical experience to be carried out effectively and safely.

Any flat roofing project demands a knowledge of, and strict adherence to, health and safety regulations.

The HSE's (Health & safety Executive) guidance on Roof Work advises that:

"Everyone involved in managing or carrying out work on roofs should be aware of the following facts:

- **High risk:** *almost one in five deaths in construction work involve roof work. Some are specialist roofers, but many are just repairing and cleaning roofs.*
- **Main causes:** *the main causes of death and injury are falling from roof edges or openings, through fragile roofs and through fragile rooflights.*
- **Equipment and people:** *many accidents could be avoided if the most suitable equipment was used and those doing the work were given adequate information, instruction, training and supervision."*

In the specific case of **projects on flat roofs** the HSE recommends that *"falls from flat roof edges can be prevented by simple edge protection arrangements – a secure double guardrail and toeboard around the edge."*



CompetentRoofer Scheme

The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) is the UK's largest roofing trade association, which states that it represents *"over 70% of the roofing industry by value."*

The NFRC recommends in its "Householder's Guide to Flat Roofing" that an installer being employed should have been passed as a CompetentRoofer under the Government-licensed Competent Person Scheme.

This allows the person concerned the ability to provide *"self-certification under the Building Regulations of roof refurbishments within England and Wales. Works carried out by CompetentRoofer members automatically receive the Building Compliance Certificate and are warranted for a period of ten years."*

The NFRC also advises, if the chosen contractor is not a member of the CompetentRoofer Scheme, that: *"you should satisfy yourself that they employ competent operatives who hold Construction Skills Certification Scheme cards (CSCS) for the type of work being carried out."*

Links:

- 1) HSE's (Health & safety Executive) guidance on Roof Work**
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/construction/safetytopics/roofwork.htm>
- 2) The NFRC Householder's Guide To Flat Roofing**
<https://www.nfrc.co.uk/docs/default-source/form-protected-documents/homeowners/householders-guide-to-flat-roofing-2015.pdf>

Disclaimer: The information contained within this document is intended to give only a brief overview of some of the risks involved in working on flat roofs. It is not intended to be a definitive list and neither is it intended to give all of the advice necessary to work on flat roofs safely. Flat Roofing Supplies and Rooflights Ltd recommends visiting the HSE website and NFRC website before beginning any flat roofing project. All items sold on the Flat Roofing Supplies and Rooflights Ltd website are used at your own risk.

