



We receive many questions from residents, roofing companies and insurance companies on the requirements for residential re-roofing in Fort Worth. Below are some of the most common.

1. Does the City enforce the adopted Codes?

Yes the City enforces the adopted International Codes. See our website for the most recently adopted Codes and local amendments:

<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/development-services/permits/construction-codes>

2. I am getting a new roof and the Codes have changed since the home was built. Does this mean that I have to bring the roof up to the presently adopted Code, and replace 100% of the sheathing?

If so, is 7/16 inch plywood or OSB the minimum now required to span 24 inches?

If the roof met code at the time that it was built then it is still in compliance per the International Existing Building Code. As long as the sheathing is in good condition it doesn't need to be replaced. Additionally 3/8" plywood or OSB is still allowed by code for rafters spaced 24" on center if the span rating of the product is 24/0. Table R503.2.1.1(1) of the 2021 IRC.

3. If some of the present 3/8" plywood or OSB panels used for decking are damaged and must be replaced does the Code say the replacement can be 3/8 inch plywood or OSB, or would I then have to replace 100% of the sheathing with 7/16 inch plywood?

See question 2.

4. If I have to replace 100 % of the sheathing, does the Code permit applying new plywood or OSB sheathing on top of the existing sheathing?

Would I use 7/16" plywood or OSB or can a thinner panel be used?

The code does not allow a layer of decking to be installed over an existing layer. There is no basis in the nail pattern charts that allow it nor do the plywood manufacturers charts.

5. Are "H" clips required if 100% of the panels are replaced?

You can use either H clips or meet the required spacing distance required by the sheathing manufacturer, typically ¼".



6. Is a permit required for a replacement roof on a single family or two-family dwelling if I am only replacing shingles and no decking is replaced?

No

7. Is a permit required if any decking is replaced?

Yes

8. What type of underlayment is required for a roof?

This varies with the type of roof covering being installed. Either the manufacturer recommendations or the requirements of section R905 of the 2021 IRC must be met whichever is more restrictive.

9. Is an ice barrier underlayment required in the City of Fort Worth?

Per our amendments an ice barrier underlayment is not required as there is not a history of ice damming in our area.

10. When re-roofing are crickets required if they don't currently exist?

Yes

11. When re-roofing are drip edges required if they don't currently exist?

Yes

12. What chapter of the 2021 International Residential Code applies to roof assemblies?

Chapter 9.