

# How to Tarp A Roof

Tarpping is a temporary fix until you can have a more permanent roof repair or replacement. The following technique can be used to tarp an asphalt shingle or metal roof after a storm. This is not the only way to do it. But, we know it to be effective. Call a roofing professional if you have a damaged tile or slate roof.

## What you will need

Tools	Materials
Cordless Driver	Tarp
Hammer	Furring Strips 1"x2" or 1"x3"
Utility Knife	Roofing Tape
Ladder	Deck Screws or nails

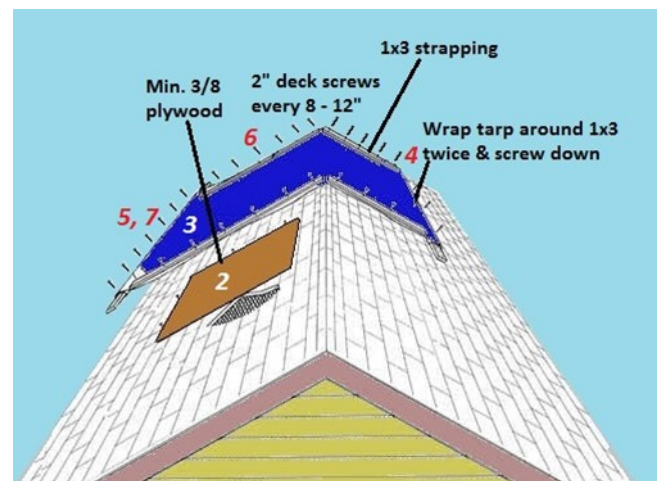
## Work safely and protect yourself

- Never work alone
- Avoid downed overhead power lines & assume they are live
- Maintain 10 feet minimum distance from overhead power lines
- Avoid the use of a metal ladder near power lines or energized electrical equipment
- Assess the roof's condition/stability prior to walking on it
- Never climb on the roof during windy or wet conditions
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (hard hat, work gloves, safety glasses, long pants, closed-toe rubber-soled shoes)
- Follow safe ladder techniques to prevent falls
- Avoid getting on the roof when work may be done from ladders or other stable platforms
- Keep an eye out for trip hazards such as vent stacks, satellite dishes, and cables/ cleats holding down the tarp
- Avoid walking on tarps as they are slippery. If you must, use extreme caution

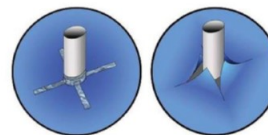
- Never walk on tarps where the roof has a high pitch

## Tarpping

- Remove branches and other debris from the roof. Locate the damaged area or areas causing the leak. You should also check the inside of your attic space or along the ceiling to find leaks and watermarks.
- If you have a large hole in your roof, cover it with a 3/8 -inch or thicker sheet of plywood. Use screws to secure it. This will prevent water from pooling in the hole after the tarp is in place.
- Make sure your tarp is large enough to cover problem spots. You want at least 3 feet of excess on each side of the compromised area. Above the compromised area, the tarp should extend over the peak of the roof at least 3 feet.



- If you encounter roof penetrations such as plumbing pipes or exhaust vents, cut an "X" in the tarp to fit over the object.



- Use roofing tape to adhere the tarp to the base of the object and seal the “X.” Make sure the seal is watertight and the tape extends 2 inches onto the base of penetration.
- Next, on the peak side, wrap the tarp around a furring strips so that it feeds off the top of the board. Screw the tarp-wrapped furring strips directly into the roof to secure it. Lay more furring strips on either side of the tarp and attach those as well for a tight, well-secured water barrier.
- On the lower end of the roof, there may be excess tarp hanging off the eave, which you can trim if you like. However, you’ll want to have ample material to roll the tarp around another furring strips and affix it to the fascia or to the house siding under the eave.
- Line the edges of the tarp with furring strips. If the tarp is greater than 6 feet wide, install additional furring strips spaced no greater than 6 feet apart. Orient these intermediate furring strips to run down the slope of the roof. Attach them with more screws to hold them in place, as well as to keep the tarp good and taut and less likely to tear.

