



OWENS CORNING & FORTIFIED™ ROOF FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the FORTIFIED™ program?

FORTIFIED is a voluntary, beyond-code construction and re-roofing program developed by the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS). A roofing contractor must be certified with FORTIFIED to qualify an install for the FORTIFIED Roof™ designation and follow the FORTIFIED requirements on products and procedures, under the review of a certified FORTIFIED Evaluator. These third-party Evaluators verify homes and buildings are built or retrofitted to withstand severe weather hazards like high winds, hurricanes, and hail according to applicable standards.

FORTIFIED has three categories – Home, Multifamily, and Commercial – and offers three levels of protection—Roof, Silver, and Gold—each building on the previous level.

How could this affect my customers?

FORTIFIED is becoming a national standard for resilient construction, referenced by insurance companies, government programs, organizations, and some building codes.

With severe weather trends and state, insurance, or organization-sponsored financial incentives continuing to emerge across the country, homeowner demand continues to grow, providing an opportunity for Owens Corning Platinum and Preferred Roofing Contractors to differentiate in the market and qualify to win FORTIFIED Roof™ projects.

Owens Corning® roofing products that contractors know and trust work in combination for a FORTIFIED-compliant roofing solution when installed according to local code, manufacturer instructions, and FORTIFIED standards.

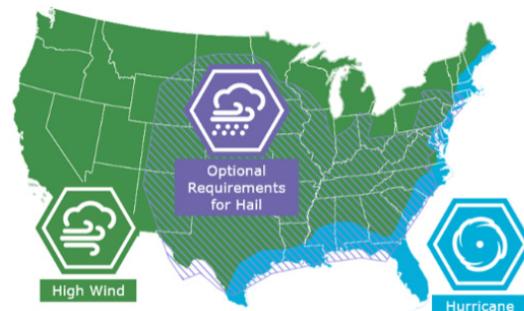


What does a FORTIFIED Roof™ include?

There are two primary FORTIFIED Roof™ designation options:

- High Wind
- Hurricane

The optional Hail Supplement can be added to either designation by following the installation and process requirements, and by using qualified hip & ridge products and impact-rated shingles scoring "Good" or "Excellent" on the IBHS hail ratings.



A FORTIFIED Roof focuses on four key upgrades:

- **Nail the Deck:** Use ring-shank nails in a tight pattern for strong attachment.
- **Seal the Deck:** Help prevent water intrusion with approved sealing methods.
- **Lock the Edges:** Install wider drip edges, and seal and secure starter shingles with roof cement at eaves and rakes.
- **Install a Rated Cover:** Install asphalt shingles with the highest available wind resistance classifications - ASTM D3161 Class F and ASTM D7158 Class H. All Owens Corning shingles meet these classifications.

Products must be installed according to local code, manufacturer instructions, and the most up to date FORTIFIED standards. For more information on the FORTIFIED Standard, visit <https://fortifiedhome.org/2025-technical-documents/>

How is Owens Corning a solution for a FORTIFIED Roof™?

The Owens Corning® Total Protection Roofing System®[^] offers products that meet FORTIFIED requirements across all product categories. Owens Corning offers a system solution for a FORTIFIED Home Roof™ when qualified products are combined from each category. See the [technical bulletin](#) in English and Spanish for more information. *Hail damage is specifically excluded from coverage under the terms of the Owens Corning® warranty.

✓ UNDERLayment	✓ STARTER	✓ VENTS	✓ SHINGLES	✓ HIP & RIDGE
• DeckDefense®	• Starter Shingle Roll (self-adhere)	• VentSure® 4' Foot Strip	• Duration®	• ProEdge®
• ProArmor®	• Starter Strip Plus in roofing cement	• VentSure® 4' InFlow Vent	• Duration FLEX®	• DuraRidge®
• RhinoRoof® U20 and Granulated		• VentSure® Metal Slant Back Vent	• Duration STORM®	• ImpactRidge®
• Titanium® UDL25, UDL30, UDL50, PSU30 and FR		• Rigid Roll	• Oakridge®	
• WeatherLock® G, FLEX, Mat, Specialty Tile & Metal		• RidgeCat (12')	• Supreme®	
Hail Supplement Qualifying Products				
✓ SHINGLES		✓ HIP & RIDGE		
• Duration®		• ImpactRidge®		
• Duration FLEX®		• Duration STORM®		
• Duration STORM®				

Why would a homeowner choose a FORTIFIED Roof™?

- Low out-of-pocket, post-disaster recovery costs
- Insurance availability and affordability (required in some states; voluntary in others)
- Access to grants and incentives from various states, businesses and organizations in certain locations
- Increased potential home resale value (~7% higher)*
- Peace of mind knowing their home is resilient

What steps should a homeowner take to inquire about a FORTIFIED Roof™?

- Identify a certified FORTIFIED Wise Roofing Contractor to install the roof ([Click here](#) or visit fortified.profilegorilla.com)
- Contact their insurance carrier, state, bank and other organizations to learn of incentives, if any
- Apply for any grants or discounts as applicable
- Verify the contractor is working with a certified FORTIFIED Evaluator

How does a contractor qualify a home for a FORTIFIED Roof™ designation?

The process includes:

- Initiating the project as a certified FORTIFIED Roofing Contractor with a FORTIFIED Evaluator
- Build to FORTIFIED standards using qualified products
- Document installation with photos and compliance forms
- Verify requirements through inspections
- IBHS reviews and issues a designation certificate to the homeowner (valid for 5 years)

The 2025 FORTIFIED Standards can be found [here](#) and at <https://fortifiedhome.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-FORTIFIED-Home-Standard.pdf?v=1763955427872>

A homeowner will receive a certificate from IBHS

- With a unique identifier
- That is good for five years
- And can be transferred to a new homeowner

The homeowner will receive notification from IBHS to renew before the designation expires. Re-designation involves an inspection and can require more actions if there are changes or damage to the roof since the FORTIFIED Roof™ install.



What are some high level differences between a typical roof install and a FORTIFIED Roof™ install?

A FORTIFIED Roof™ has specific **product** requirements such as:

- FORTIFIED-qualified products
- Ring-shank nails
- Wider drip edge: ≥4" on rake, ≥2" on eave
- Roof cement under starter shingles or self-adhered starter
- Vents that meet FBC TAS 100(A) wind-driven rain resistance
- For optional Hail Supplement, shingles rated Excellent or Good by IBHS

A FORTIFIED Roof™ has specific **process** requirements such as:

- Start the job with an Evaluator who inspects the work 2-4 times throughout the install
- Pictures of all products showing code compliance submitted to IBHS
- Pictures of every step of install, up to hundreds overall, submitted to IBHS
- Documentation submitted to IBHS
- Additional lap and specific fasteners installed in the wider drip edge
- Re-nail the deck with ring-shank nails at appropriate spacing as needed
- Seal the roof deck according to 1 of 3 FORTIFIED options
- Increased lap and specific fasteners to attach the underlayment
- Roof cement + starter or self-adhered starter at eaves & rakes
- Additional and specific fasteners appropriately spaced to attach the shingles

[^] Excludes non-Owens Corning roofing products such as flashing, fasteners, pipe boots and wood decking.

* "Estimating the Effect of FORTIFIED Home Construction on Home Resale Value", University of Alabama [[PDF Link](#)]

Why is the FORTIFIED Roof™ program important to roofing contractors?

FORTIFIED creates opportunities for contractors to:

- Differentiate as system and performance experts
- Generate leads through the FORTIFIED Provider Network
- Qualify to win FORTIFIED jobs as a certified installer
- Sell more qualified products and accessories

How does a contractor become a certified FORTIFIED Roofing Contractor?

A contractor must qualify to become a certified FORTIFIED Wise Roofing Contractor. As of December 2025, eligibility requirements include:

- Provide a descriptive summary of roofing field experience
- Provide a thorough understanding of the roofing systems installed by their company
- Be employed by a company seeking qualification and hold a position of authority
- Complete the FORTIFIED Wise Roofing Contractor Training Course online
- Pass the FORTIFIED Roofing Contractor Certification Exam online with a minimum score of 85%
- Be able to explain FORTIFIED requirements and any changes, per notification

Additional details and responsibilities can be found [here](#) or at <https://fortifiedhome.org/how-to-become-fortified-certified>

What are the requirements for a Roofing company to be listed on the FORTIFIED Provider Directory and gain access to FORTIFIED logos?

- At least one employee who is a certified FORTIFIED Wise Roofing Contractor at the location to be listed
- Proof of nationally-recognized roofing manufacturer certification – Platinum or Preferred designations in the Owens Corning Contractor Network
- Hold required licenses
- Proof of a minimum of two (2) years in business
- Verification of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in general liability insurance
- Proof of valid Workers' Compensation coverage
- Sign the FORTIFIED Roofing Contractor Agreement, executed by company owner or principal and IBHS

Additional Questions?

Visit:

- <https://owenscorning.com/en-us/roofing/fortified-roof>
- <https://fortifiedhome.org>
- <https://ibhs.org>

