

RTA notes on the correct use of tile clips



Redland Innofix clip

Roof tile fixing specifications issued by tile manufacturer-members of the Roof Tile Association (RTA), are determined by wind uplift resistance calculations based upon test data using the roof tile manufacturer-specified clips. The fixing specifications determined are designed to adequately resist the calculated 1 in 50 year design wind loads based upon the relevant location and building factors for the roofing project.

The test method for tile clips, which is referenced in BS 5534: 2014, Slating and tiling for pitched roofs and vertical cladding – Code of practice, measures not only the strength of the clip (ie its ability to restrain the roof tile when subjected to an uplift load) but also its mode of failure which allows assignment of a suitable safety factor to be included in the wind uplift resistance calculations.



Russell tile clip

This means that if a tile clip other than that specified by the tile manufacturer is used, then the resulting fixing specification may not adequately resist the wind loads possible at the site in question and consequently a finished roof that does not comply with the requirements of BS 5534: 2014. Increasingly, and particularly in new build, housing enforcement agencies such as the NHBC require evidence that a tile manufacturers fixing specification has been used and that includes the use of the correctly specified tile clips. Failure to follow this guidance could result in the roof having to be stripped and re-tiled using the correct tile clips.



Wienerberger Sandtoft tile clip

Use of RTA tile manufacturer tile clips also ensures that the clips used have the necessary quality and durability when exposed on a roof in the UK climate, which may not always be the case if clips from other sources are used.



Marley Eternit Solo clip

Please contact the relevant RTA roof tile manufacturer for further information on the use of tile clips and for a calculated fixing specification for your project.



Forticrete tile clip