Plastic Roofing (PVC/TPO)

Plastic roofing is a modern single ply roof membrane, and is usually PVC (Poly Vinyl Chloride) or TPO (Thermal Polyolifine). PVC is a thermoplastic polymer, while TPO is a thermoplastic olefin. Both are synthetically produced into plastic roofing to provide protection, waterproofing and lightweight roofing membrane solutions.

The Pros and Cons of Plastic Roofing

Plastic roofing is specially designed to withstand ponding water which makes it ideal to have this roof system in a climate where rain levels are high. Because it is welded together with hot air to seal all seams, it greatly prevents the passing of moisture. Also, plastic roofing is able to reflect about 90% of UV and other rays. This lowers the absorption of heat, and in turn reduces cooling costs. Plastic roofing is fire safe and highly suited to low slope roofs. However, plastic roofing has low durability and strength. This means that it is not capable of holding large amounts of weight or handling high amounts of human traffic. Plastic roofing also tends to shrink which eventually causes seam parting and leaks.