



Brad Hays



SBC Roof Series: Torch Down Roofing Installation

The installation of a torch down roof involves several key steps:

1. **Prepare the Substrate:** The surface to be covered with the torch down roofing material must be clean, dry, and free of any debris. Any existing roofing material should be removed down to the substrate.
2. **Apply Base Sheet:** The base sheet, typically made of fiberglass or polyester, is mechanically fastened or adhered to the substrate to provide a stable foundation for the torch down roofing system.
3. **Install Modified Bitumen Rolls:** The modified bitumen rolls are rolled out over the base sheet, and the layers are staggered to create overlapping seams. The rolls are then adhered to the substrate using a propane torch to create a watertight seal.
4. **Apply Heat:** A roofing torch is used to carefully heat the modified bitumen material as it is unrolled, activating the adhesive properties and ensuring proper adhesion to the base layer.
5. **Install Flashing:** Metal flashing is installed at vulnerable areas such as roof edges, penetrations, and joints to provide additional waterproofing and protection.
6. **Insulation (if applicable):** If insulation is part of the roofing system, it is installed either under or over the base sheet before the application of the modified bitumen.
7. **Final Checks:** Once the modified bitumen is properly adhered and sealed, the entire roofing system is inspected to ensure that all seams, edges, and flashing are secure and watertight.

Proper training, adherence to safety protocols, and knowledge of local building codes are essential during the installation of a torch down roof. It's important to follow manufacturer guidelines and industry best practices to ensure a successful and long-lasting roofing system.



* Check with a licensed roofing contractor for additional information.