

Breathable Pitched Roof Underlays

Do you need Roof Space Ventilation

YES or NO?

Four national institutions are relevant to this question.

1. **NHBC** in conjunction with the **BRE** have made an amendment to their standards (Chapter 72 – Pitched Roofs). The amendment states that when using a Vapour Permeable Membrane, ridge or high level ventilation should be installed. This ventilation above the membrane will aid the transfer of moisture vapour through the membrane. **Roof space ventilation is not required** and this amendment only applies to **new house builds**.
2. **British Standards Institute** recommend in their standard BS5250 2002 (Control of condensation in pitched roofs) page 30, 8.4.2.2.4.4 that providing a Breathable (L.R.) Pitched Roof Underlay has been tested and approved by the BBA, or similar, for use in Cold Unventilated Pitched Roofs, then **roof space ventilation is not required**.
3. **BBA (British Board of Agrément)** issued a questions and answer paper in April 2004 stating that roof space ventilation is not required in a pitched roof providing the underlay is breathable, has received approval by the BBA, or similar, and the roof system is considered as a whole from ceiling to roof tiles. **A full copy of this document can be found on the Mercury Building Products website (downloads).**

The VapR-free range of Breathable Pitched Roof Underlays has been tested and approved by the BBA for use in Warm and Cold unventilated energy efficient pitched roofs without the need for roof space ventilation.

ANSWER NO!

Mercury Building Products Limited are specialists with years of experience in the use of Breathable Pitched Roof Underlays. We have a nationwide network of stockists and offer a full Technical and Sales Support Service.



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