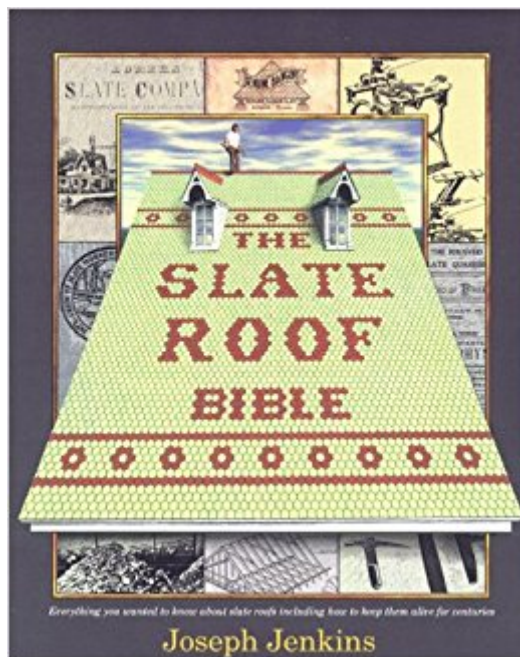


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# The Slate Roof Bible



## Synopsis

Published September 1, 1997, *The Slate Roof Bible* is the first comprehensive book on the topic of slate roofs since 1926. It contains 200 photos, some in color, and an additional 175 black and white drawings. This two-part book tells you why older slate roofs should be preserved, if they can (and how to determine that), and how to identify the various types of roof slate. It details the history of the slate roofing industry in the United States and in Wales (the Welsh started virtually all the slate quarries in the United States), and explains how the finished roof slates were made. The second half of the book is a detailed, step-by-step repair manual, indicating what tools to use, where to get them, and how to use them. It describes what goes wrong with older slate roofs and how to remedy the problems, and includes chapters on how to safely work on slate roofs, plus complete flashing details, chimney repair and rebuilding, how to install and recycle slate roofs, and more. Written in simple, easy to understand laypersons' terms, this is one book no slate roof owner, architect, historian or contractor should be without.

## Book Information

Paperback: 296 pages

Publisher: Joseph Jenkins, Inc. (June 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0964425807

ISBN-13: 978-0964425804

Product Dimensions: 11.1 x 8.6 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #965,295 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Roofing](#) #535 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Structural](#) #2346 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Design & Construction](#)

## Customer Reviews

"The Slate Roof Bible gives a concise history of the slate industry on both sides of the Atlantic, and the types and colours of slates to be found. Although the author is American, he is descended from Welsh migrants who left with the collapse of the Welsh slate industry around the turn of the century, and this is reflected in the early chapters. The later chapters cover in some depth the design,

installation, and maintenance of slate roofs. Also covered are tools, safe working practices, and important details on chimneys, flashings and gutters. This is well done, with clear illustrations and photos - an excellent example of how to produce a practical guide. The first book to be written on the subject of slate roofs since 1926. -- The Permaculture Magazine Information Service [England]"The Slate Roof Bible is a fine book, filled with fascinating information about slate: its history, the industry, and the way to work with it properly." "I've been working with slate for a long time; still, I learned from this book some valuable hints and techniques that I've been able to put into practice." -- Fine Homebuilding, July 1998"Five years of meticulous research, thousands of miles traveled to slate quarries all over the world, particularly Wales, has produced The Slate Roof Bible - and a surprise. This book, potentially tedious reading, is instead a delight. Full of history, lore, and useful advice, Jenkins has written a fascinating book, spiced it with humor and warmed it with his own passion for the subject." -- Doylestown Intelligencer Record [Philadelphia]"Jenkins tells his tale with pizzazz and rollicking humor, offering anecdote after anecdote about what people do, and do not do, to their slate roofs." -- Boston Sunday Globe

Jenkins Publishing is proud to announce that The Slate Roof Bible was presented with the prestigious National Roofing Contractors Association 2001 GOLD CIRCLE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ROOFING INDUSTRY. One such award is given annually within the 4,700-member international trade association in the "SERVICE TO THE INDUSTRY" category.

This book guided me through every step of putting a slate roof on a Japanese teahouse I'm building. Jenkins knows what he's doing and presents the best method in an amateur-friendly way. The Bible is probably a must-have for professional roofers, too.

I am a low income home owner that lives in a state where people don't seem to know what slate is. I do all my own work on my home with the help of my husband. Since he doesn't do heights...even a ladder makes him nervous, and I am happy swinging in the trees, I am the "roofer" in the family. I had zero intention of losing my slate, and no idea how to work with it. This book makes me feel confident that I can. The Youtube videos are an awesome addition, to see how to wield a tool....there is nothing like seeing someone do something to get a good feel for technique. The book is SOOO informative. Don't just skip to the "how-to" for what you need to accomplish. Actually sit and read it cover to cover. It is REALLY helpful to know the nature and history of what you're working with! This book will set you on the path of appreciating the rock and the skill that it takes to

get it from mine to roof. I just wish others in my town appreciated what they had on their houses...Even one of the members of the Historic District Commission....ripped all three townhouse roofs off and put asphalt up that still leaks (for tens of thousands of dollars).Packed with witty writing, history and technical information this book will inform you of the beauty of slate, and/or arm you with the knowledge of how to preserve it yourself or ask questions of your contractor. A must if your roof is rock and you intend to keep it that way. I think all homes with a rock roof in this country should come with this book!The pictures are excellent....combined with online video, basic tools and safety equipment, you can do it yourself or be better informed to approach contractors. Even if you're not doing the work yourself, knowing how it should be done, and reading/watching what the experts do will help you not get ripped off.

Nice review of slating over the centuries, as well as a good tool for current slate quarried in the US and elsewhere. I've worked on slate roofs in Virginia for almost 35 years and learned a lot of new information from this well written and nicely presented book.Good pics too.

Wow! This book is everything I've been looking for since I purchased a 110-year-old house with its original slate roof. I soon found out that there was virtually no one with a good working knowledge of slate rooves to be found. We are facing some fairly serious maintenance issues now and when I ran across this book, I hoped for the best. I was right. This has everything you need to work on your own roof or find someone who can, what kind of slate you have, and proper methodologies for putting down as well as repairing slate. It has an amazing breadth, and has beautiful photos of some historical slate rooves, as well as excellent line drawings of repair techniques. This book is for anyone interested in the wonderful slate roof, whether or not you own one. My husband was astonished to find that exactly what he had needed to know was now at his fingertips, with complete instructions. We've had our house for five years now, and finally feel confident about caring for our beautiful old roof.

This was a gift and was more than welcomed and appreciated!! Thank you!

Who knew one could get so excited about slate roofing. After reading this book, I am so motivated to tackle the roof on my house. Everywhere I walk now my head is pointed upwards to look at the slate on roofs. My father always told me that slate lasts 100 years - but never did I imagine it could last up to 400! The most interesting thing about this book is the geology of slate. Mr Jenkins clearly

shows his experience but also his passion for this type of roof - which is more than a roof- it's a piece of architectural history. The book appropriately enough starts with a poem - because slate can truly inspire poetry. My only criticism is that in his passion for slate, Mr. Jenkins occasionally slights terne roofing. Being in a barn, garage or gazebo under a terne / tin roof during the rain is just as poetic as slate. I remember looking for books on terne roofing, a skill which thankfully my father passed on to me, and found in some complete guide to roofing (sic) that 'metal is no longer an acceptable roofing material because of the noise it makes during rain'. My God - they just don't get it. Tthe poetry of rain on a tin (or slate) roof. Pity the people who have never heard that soothing, lulling sound.

Has loads of information about all aspects of slate roofing with photos and illustrations from repairing a slate roof to types of slate.

The title pretty much says it all. Despite the drawbacks noted by other reviewers I found the information to be comprehensive and informative.

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