



BY



TIPS

TOP ROOF WINDOW TIPS

IT'S ON THE HOUSE
WITH DAKEA



TOP ROOF WINDOW TIPS

A high-quality, properly-installed roof window not only lets fresh air and light flood into a property, it will add another dimension to the look of a house, sitting snugly in the roof at the same angle. Whether you're installing roof windows yourself or using a professional installer, here are a few tips to consider from the experts at Dakea.



TIP #1

Make sure you have all the right tools

If you're doing the installation yourself, here's a handy checklist of what you'll need.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Installation instructions | Panel Saw |
| Tape measure | Power Tools (cordless drill, electric saw etc.) |
| Hammer | Pincers |
| Work gloves | Craft knife |
| Metal square | Screwdriver |
| Pencils | Safety goggles |
| Angle grinder | |

TIP #2

Always choose the best roof window for your project

Choosing a high quality roof window that's smooth to install and built to last is an excellent idea, but which window you choose will depend on the priorities – is energy efficiency or easy cleaning most important, for example? Height is another factor to consider – if the window is sited high up in the roof, low maintenance PVC can be a good idea.

In general, we always recommend having no less than 20% of the floor area in glazing, and it's worth considering multiples of windows for improved ventilation – the more windows there are, the more controllable the flow of air, and on sunny days one or more can always be shaded.

Our online window configurator [here](#) can help you find the perfect window, and also the perfect blind or other accessories [here](#).

TIP #3

Think what's best for the property

In terms of design and aesthetics, two or three roof windows side by side look fantastic when there's room and improve ventilation. These can be a different width as long as the windows are the same heights.

If there are likely to be small children in the property, consider laminated inner safety panes which won't shatter and fall in in the event of any breakage; also consider how high the window will sit, as this will dictate how the window is best reached for opening and closing. Can it be done manually, or will it need a manual or electric window opener?

If your window is in an uninhabited room such as a garage or loft that's only for storage, a skylight could be a better idea – the [Dakea skylight](#) provides a simpler, more cost-effective design with only basic thermal qualities that can still be opened and lets light and fresh air in.

Some of the latest developments in roof windows are worth considering too – roller shutters if security is an issue, a triple pane window for ultimate energy efficiency and noise block technology if the property's on a busy road.

TIP #4

Future-proof your window by avoiding condensation, overheating and leakage

You can get more light and air into a room by splaying the internal reveals of plasterboard. Larger windows have two positions on trickle vents and it's worth leaving both open – and remember, the higher the window, the better the ventilation.

Having a heat source under the window is a good idea so a warm air curtain comes over the glass and minimises condensation, and always make sure the insulation foam collar is fitted around the frame to limit heat loss. For the very best levels of insulation, choose a higher spec window, such as Dakea's Ultima.



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TIP #5

Always leave enough installation time

If you're replacing a window or installing a roof window, you should allow anything up to two days, depending on weather. An experienced installers might take around 6 or 7 hours if it's straightforward, but it's vital not to rush the job. It's a good idea to always have an extra pair of hands to help, but simply follow the instructions and if you have any questions simply give us a call. Dakea's YouTube channel also has a range of useful instructional videos.

TIP #6

Check your roof window has been installed correctly

If you're having roof windows installed, here are a few things to look for. Firstly, the window opening sash should be sitting squarely and properly within the fixed frame.

Secondly, check the right flashing has been used. The roof pitch is important when choosing windows and flashings, and most Dakea products can be used in roof pitches of 15° to 90°, but there are some special cases. Recessed installation (KFF flashing) can be installed in roof pitch of 20° to 90° and plain tile roofing material (KFP flashing) in roof pitches of 25° to 90°.

Next, check that the tile external clearance has a gap of 60-150mm on tile flashing to the head of the window and 30mm down each side flashing. With standard interlocking tiles the installer should have allowed for a full tile at the base of the window. Finally, look out for (and correct) tiles or slate kicking up around the window if the installers have used sealant, and check that the installed aluminium cover parts to the window are fitted and sited correctly and not damaged or kicking up.



TIP #7

Ask Dakea!

If you have any questions or queries about roof window installation, you can easily get all the help you need – just talk to your Dakea dealer today or call us on **020 3970 5080**.



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KEY TAKE OUTS

Useful tips for choosing and installing roof windows, whether you're doing it yourself or using a professional installer.

If installing it yourself, make sure you have all the tools you need to hand.

Choose the best roof window depending on priorities, ease of use, whether children are in the property, and so on.

Have no less than 20% of the floor area in glazing, and consider multiple windows for better ventilation.

If your window's for an uninhabited room such as a loft or garage, consider a skylight instead.

Avoid condensation, overheating and leakage to extend the life of your roof windows – leave trickle vents open, have a heat source under the window and make sure the insulation foam collar is fitted.

Allow up to two days for fitting, depending on the weather – for help with installation, contact Dakea or watch the videos on Dakea's YouTube channel.

Check the finished installation has the opening sash sitting squarely within the fixed frame, the right flashing has been used and that the tile clearance is 60-150mm to the head and 30mm down each side.

Check the installer's allowed for a full tile at the base of the window, look out for tiles or slate kicking up around the window, and make sure the aluminium cover parts are fitted correctly.

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