Conical Turret Installation
How to Install EcoStar Tiles on a Conical Turret

EcoStar Majestic Slate, Empire Slate, Seneca Shake or Empire Shake tiles are a great choice for conical turrets. The flexibility of the tiles eases the challenges associated with conical turret installations.

The following is a step by step guide to help the installer estimate the amount of material and accomplish the installation.

Determine the area of the turret:

There are some important things to consider when estimating the amount of material needed to cover the turret:

A metal finial will be necessary to cap the top of the turret. EcoStar Slate tiles should not be cut to a width less than 3”, so the metal finial needs to extend down the turret to the point where tiles can no longer be used.

Random-Width Blend in Majestic or Empire Slate (for a slate look) and Seneca and Empire Shake (for a shake look) are the best choices for use on conical turrets. These products include 6”, 9” and 12” wide tiles in every bundle. The gaps between tiles cannot be aligned on a conical turret as they would be on a normal roof slope. The gaps and tile sizes will always be random. The use of three sized tiles will reduce the amount of waste and make the installation quicker.

To maintain the required 3/8” gap between tiles, the sides of every tile will have to be cut to the correct angle on a turret installation. To determine the proper angle, temporarily install a tile at the eave, parallel to the eave. Connect a chalk line to the point of the turret and lay it across the tile to each bottom corner of the tile. The string position(s) on the tile will show the angle at which every tile will be cut. Mark the angle on the tile, cut the tile on the mark and use it for a pattern.
Snapping several chalk lines from the point to the eave around the turret will help in aligning the tiles during installation. These lines are for vertical reference only, not tile edge alignment.

**Installation**

Start by cutting the sides of a few full size 6” 9” and 12” tiles to the proper angle leaving the full width at the bottom of the tile. A table saw works great for this. The cut edges of EcoStar slate tiles can be quickly and easily scalloped with a utility knife to restore a slate like detail. Install the starter row using a random selection of the three widths gapped at 3/8” between tiles.

Install the first exposed row using the tile that will cover the gap, cover the nail, and leave the opportunity to do so with the next tile. The random pattern will dictate what tile works next. Use full bottom width tiles until the pattern dictates that smaller widths are necessary. At this point each tile becomes “cut to fit”.

You will find that as the installation progresses up the turret there will be rows where mostly full bottom width tiles work again. Eventually all tiles will be small widths.

**Tips**

If you have never installed EcoStar slate or shake tiles, familiarize yourself with the standard EcoStar installation instructions **BEFORE** you attempt a conical turret installation.

When installing slate tiles, scallop the tile edges for a more slate like appearance. Don’t scallop the edges of the starter row tiles, as they will not be seen. Don’t forget to bend the tiles in a downward arc before installation as per standard EcoStar installation instructions. Designer slate tiles only come in 12” widths, **but** you can make different width designer tiles using a table saw or jig saw. Scallop the edges after cutting.

Contact the EcoStar Technical Department with any technical questions 800-211-7170.