

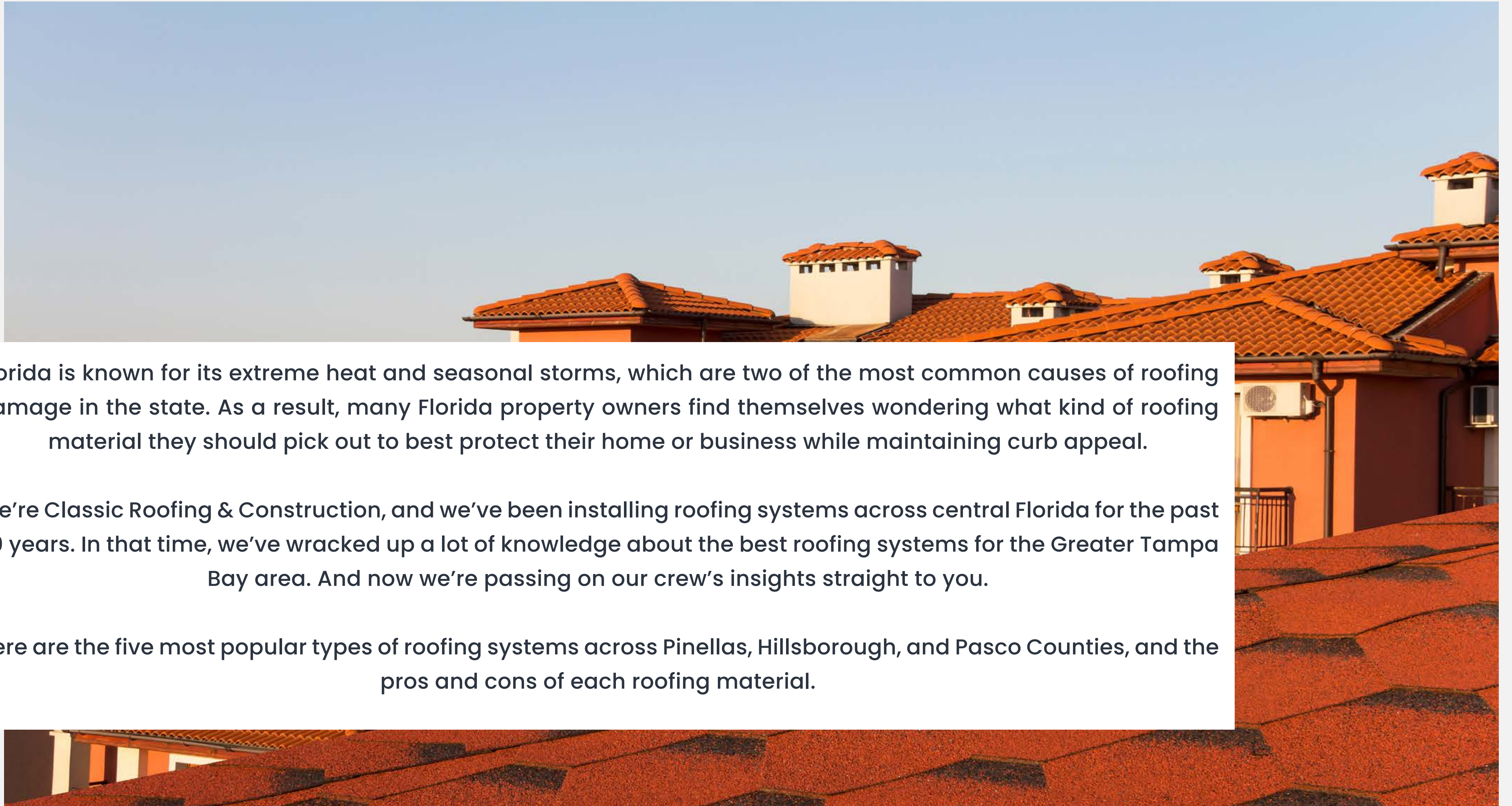
CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION

# THE 5 MOST POPULAR ROOFING MATERIALS & HOW TO FIND TRUSTWORTHY ROOFERS TO INSTALL THEM

Florida is known for its extreme heat and seasonal storms, which are two of the most common causes of roofing damage in the state. As a result, many Florida property owners find themselves wondering what kind of roofing material they should pick out to best protect their home or business while maintaining curb appeal.

We're Classic Roofing & Construction, and we've been installing roofing systems across central Florida for the past 20 years. In that time, we've wracked up a lot of knowledge about the best roofing systems for the Greater Tampa Bay area. And now we're passing on our crew's insights straight to you.

Here are the five most popular types of roofing systems across Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Pasco Counties, and the pros and cons of each roofing material.

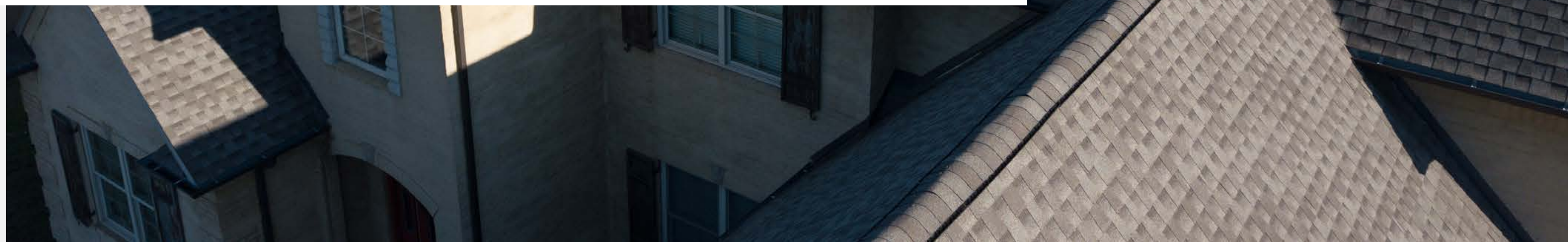




## CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION **SHINGLE ROOFING SYSTEMS**



Across the US, shingles are the most commonly used roofing material. And it's not hard to see why—shingles are affordable, durable, and they come in a variety of styles and colors to suit whatever vision you have for your home or business.





# PROS OF SHINGLE ROOFING

What makes shingle roofing systems so popular? Well, it comes down to a few critical factors of this roofing system.

## SHINGLES DON'T BREAK THE BANK

Shingles are among the most budget-friendly roofing materials on the market. This is especially true if you stick with the standard grey, brown, and black shades of shingles. Other, brighter-colored shingles are available, but this will increase the price of your roof.

## VARIETY OF COLORS AND STYLES

As mentioned, the sky's the limit when it comes to what kind of style you can achieve with a shingle roofing system. Some of the most common styles of shingle include:

- **3-Tab Shingles:** These shingles lay flat against the roof, and as their name implies, they're made up of three tabs on a single strip. These are the most budget-friendly type of shingles.
- **Dimensional Shingles:** This is another type of shingle that lives up to its name: By alternating tones, these shingles create a textured, dimensional look that mimics the style of wood or shake roofing systems.
- **Luxury Shingles:** Also called luxury shingles, these are larger than other types of shingles and have the look of a slate roof. These are the most expensive type of shingles on the market, but they're worth it if you want a particular look for your home or business.

## SHINGLES ARE QUICK TO INSTALL

When you hire skilled roofers to handle your project, installing shingles shouldn't take long at all. They don't require too much prep work or specialized tools, so a good crew can quickly get your new shingle roofing system installed. This also helps keep your final bill down since the project isn't wracking up labor hours.



# CONS OF SHINGLE ROOFING

These are all great perks to have in a roofing system, but you should also be aware of the downsides of a shingle roofing system.

## SHINGLES ARE VULNERABLE TO HIGH WINDS

While this can vary greatly depending on the brand of shingle that you're using, in general, shingles don't hold up well against high winds and can detach from your roof in a storm. And that can be a problem in Florida, where hurricanes and tropical storms are just a fact of life.

## THEY DON'T LAST TOO LONG

Shingles are a durable roofing material, but they still only last for 20-30 years on average. This isn't a short time, of course, but it is considerably shorter than other roofing systems on the market.

## WRAPPING UP: THE GOOD AND THE BAD OF SHINGLE ROOFS

As you can see, shingles are a great roofing option for a variety of situations, but they're not perfect for everyone. While they're affordable and come in a variety of styles, they're also susceptible to storm damage and only last 20-30 years before needing to be replaced.

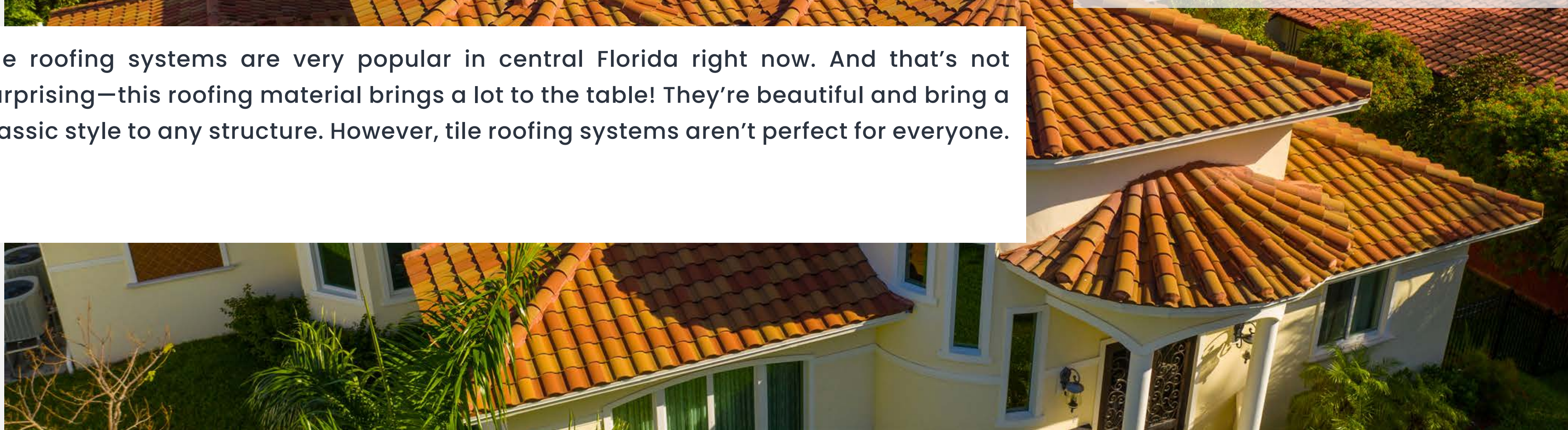




## CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION **TILE ROOFING SYSTEMS**



Tile roofing systems are very popular in central Florida right now. And that's not surprising—this roofing material brings a lot to the table! They're beautiful and bring a classic style to any structure. However, tile roofing systems aren't perfect for everyone.





# PROS OF TILE ROOFING

The Greater Tampa Bay region has fallen in love with tile roofing in recent years. So what's all the fuss about?

## TILE IS DURABLE AND ENDURING

If you take care of your roof, you can reasonably expect your tile roofing system to live for up to 50 years. And they're especially good at withstanding our local weather patterns—tile roofs hold up well against high winds, heat, and salt air, so they're great if you need a durable roof on the coast.

## THERE ARE TONS OF DIFFERENT TYPES

In addition to their durability, tile roofs are made from different materials, each with its own benefits and drawbacks. Some of the most popular options in Florida include:

- **Clay Tiles:** These tiles have a classic look that many homeowners love. In central Florida, the most popular kind of clay tile is Spanish tile, which complements a variety of styles and can greatly increase curb appeal for your home.
- **Concrete Tiles:** This heavy-duty, durable option is another great choice for clay roofs. While concrete tiles are often a more affordable option, they're also heavier than clay tiles, so they may not be safe to install on your roof. When you schedule an estimate, a qualified roofing expert will be able to tell you if concrete tiles are a good option for you.
- **Slate Tiles:** These stone-derived tiles are another hardy option for your tile roofing system. They come in a variety of colors and styles, and they're very resistant to the elements.

Regardless of the type of tile you choose, you will have plenty of styles to choose from to complete your vision for your home or business.

## TILE IS ECO-FRIENDLY

Did you know that installing a tile roof is actually good for the planet? Since it lasts for so long, you save the resources you'd otherwise have spent installing another roof. As a bonus, tiles are made from natural materials, so they're easy to recycle and often end up creating the base for roads.



# CONS OF TILE ROOFING

Tile roofs are a great option, but they're not for everyone. Here are some of the most common issues that keep people from choosing tile for their home or business.

## TILE IS EXPENSIVE

Compared to shingles, tile is going to cost a lot more. And that makes sense—it's more weather-resistant and lasts longer. If your budget is tight but you really want a tile roof, you should consider concrete tiles to lower the cost of your project.

Alternatively, you can look into roof financing, which is a great way to get the roof you want now and pay it off over time.

## TILE ROOFING IS HEAVY

Tiles are far from a lightweight roofing system. While different types of tiles will weigh more or less, in general, tiles are heavy roofing materials that need a sufficiently strong structure to support them. This means that they're not compatible with every roof.

However, a qualified roofer can tell you whether or not tile is a good fit for your home or business when they perform the initial inspection and estimate for your roofing project.

## TILE ROOFS: A STRONG ROOFING OPTION FOR FLORIDIANS

It's not hard to see why tile roofs are increasingly popular in central Florida. They're perfect for handling Florida's weather, and they provide a classic style that can add curb appeal to any property. While they're on the expensive side and not suited for every roof, tiles are a great option for many local property owners.





## CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION **METAL ROOFING SYSTEMS**



Some people don't like the idea of a metal roof, but that's mostly because there are a lot of myths and misconceptions around metal roofing systems. For instance, people think that metal roofs are loud or that they're going to rust, but neither of these are common issues for modern metal roofs.

In reality, metal roofs have a lot going for them, and they're a highly desirable roofing material for plenty of property owners.





# PROS OF METAL ROOFING

More and more metal roofs are popping up around the United States, but especially in central Florida. What's the reason for this sudden increase in their popularity?

## **METAL ROOFS ARE HIGHLY WEATHER RESISTANT**

As you might imagine, metal roofs are pretty tough and capable of standing up to storm debris. Additionally, they're highly resistant to wind uplift, which means that once your metal roof has been properly installed, it's not going anywhere.

Metal roofs also come with an additional bonus: They reflect heat away from your home. Since metal has a lower thermal mass than shingles, it deflects heat from your home instead of absorbing it. This extends the life of your roof while lowering your energy bill at the same time!

## **METAL ROOFS ARE BUILT TO LAST**

Like tile roofs, metal roofs can live quite a long time on your structure. In fact, metal roofs can last anywhere from 40 to 70 years without needing to be replaced. The specifics depend on what materials your metal roof is made from, but in general, they're a very long-lived roofing material option.

## **METAL ROOFS INCREASE CURB APPEAL**

People sometimes think of metal roofs as ugly or as providing a poor return on investment for their property, but nothing could be further from the truth. Sure, some buyers are probably less interested in a home with a metal roof, but they are a very small minority.

For most buyers, a metal roof is a sign that the structure isn't going to need a new roof any time soon. Moreover, modern metal roofs come in plenty of colors and styles, so you can certainly find one in a color that will increase the aesthetic appeal of your home or business.



# CONS OF METAL ROOFING

There's no perfect roofing system for every home or business, and metal roofs are no exception. Here are some factors that can help you decide whether or not metal is the right roofing material for you.

## **METAL ROOFS ARE NOT CHEAP TO INSTALL**

In terms of price, metal roofs come in well above shingles. While the specifics will always come down to the specific type of metal roof and the manufacturer, metal roofs tend to be more expensive than even luxury shingles.

On the other hand, metal roofs may come at comparable prices to tiles, depending on the specifics. It's important not to let cost be the only factor in deciding what roofing material to use, but if you're operating on a very tight budget, there may be better options for you than a metal roofing system.

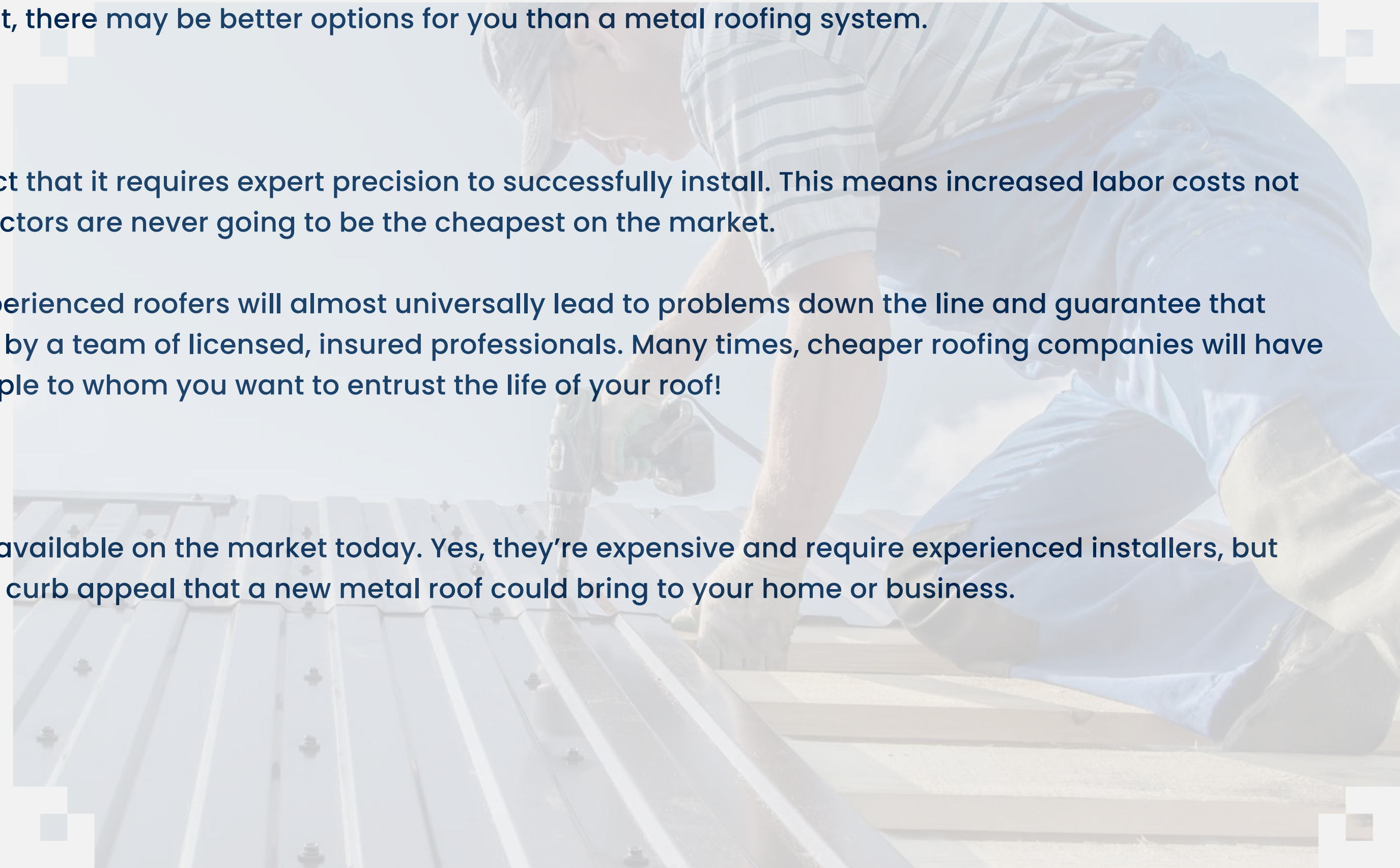
## **METAL ROOFS ARE TRICKY**

Part of what makes metal roofing more expensive to install is the fact that it requires expert precision to successfully install. This means increased labor costs not only in terms of working hours but also because experienced contractors are never going to be the cheapest on the market.

Still, installation is not where you want to cut corners. DIYers or inexperienced roofers will almost universally lead to problems down the line and guarantee that your metal roof does not last as long as it could if it'd been installed by a team of licensed, insured professionals. Many times, cheaper roofing companies will have opened recently and be closed within a year—these are not the people to whom you want to entrust the life of your roof!

## **METAL ROOFING HAS A LOT GOING FOR IT**

Metal roofs are, without question, some of the best roofing systems available on the market today. Yes, they're expensive and require experienced installers, but they're well worth it when you consider the longevity, durability, and curb appeal that a new metal roof could bring to your home or business.





CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION

## MODIFIED BITUMEN ROOFING SYSTEMS



If you have a low-slope roof (also commonly called a flat roof, although this isn't strictly accurate), modified bitumen could be exactly the roofing material that you're looking for. Called "mod-bit" by roofers, this material is a membrane made of asphalt combined with polymerized rubber or plastic, and then it's further reinforced with fiberglass or another material.

Modified bitumen has exploded in popularity in the past 40 years, and it's now one of the top modern replacements for built-up roofing systems. If you're replacing an old low-slope roof, mod-bit is undeniably a strong contender.



# PROS OF MODIFIED BITUMEN ROOFING

Modified bitumen is far from the only option for flat roofs. So why has it become so popular?

## **MOD-BIT IS RESISTANT TO FOOT TRAFFIC**

Modified bitumen is an especially great option for commercial roofing due to it holding up well against light foot traffic. This is because, unlike other low-slope roofing systems, mod-bit is applied over multiple layers.

These multiple layers give the roofing system increased strength and durability to stand up to regular foot traffic. While membrane roofing systems are not generally good choices for patios, mod-bit roofs can hold up remarkably well when walked upon.

## **MODIFIED BITUMEN IS TEAR-RESISTANT**

When Florida gets hit with tropical depressions and hurricanes, flying debris can be a real danger for both residential and commercial roofs. But mod-bit holds up beautifully to this issue thanks to its multi-layer design and the asphalt in its composition. As a result, it's heavily resistant to puncturing and tearing from airborne debris.

## **MOD BIT ROOFS ARE AFFORDABLE**

If you have a tight budget for your low-slope roofing project, mod-bit is an excellent roofing material. Modified bitumen is at the lower end of the pricing scale for membrane roofing systems, which makes it a highly attractive option for property owners who want a durable, waterproof roof on a tight budget.



# CONS OF MODIFIED BITUMEN ROOFING

While modified bitumen is a competitive roofing material for low-slope roofs in Florida, it's not right for everyone. Let's see some factors that can determine whether or not mod-bit is the right call for your roof.

## **MOD-BIT ONLY LASTS UP TO 20 YEARS**

While modified bitumen holds up strongly to winds and storm debris, the natural lifespan of this roofing system rarely goes much longer than 20 years. While this is still a long time, especially considering how durable mod-bit is, it is not the longest-lasting roofing material for low-slope roofs.

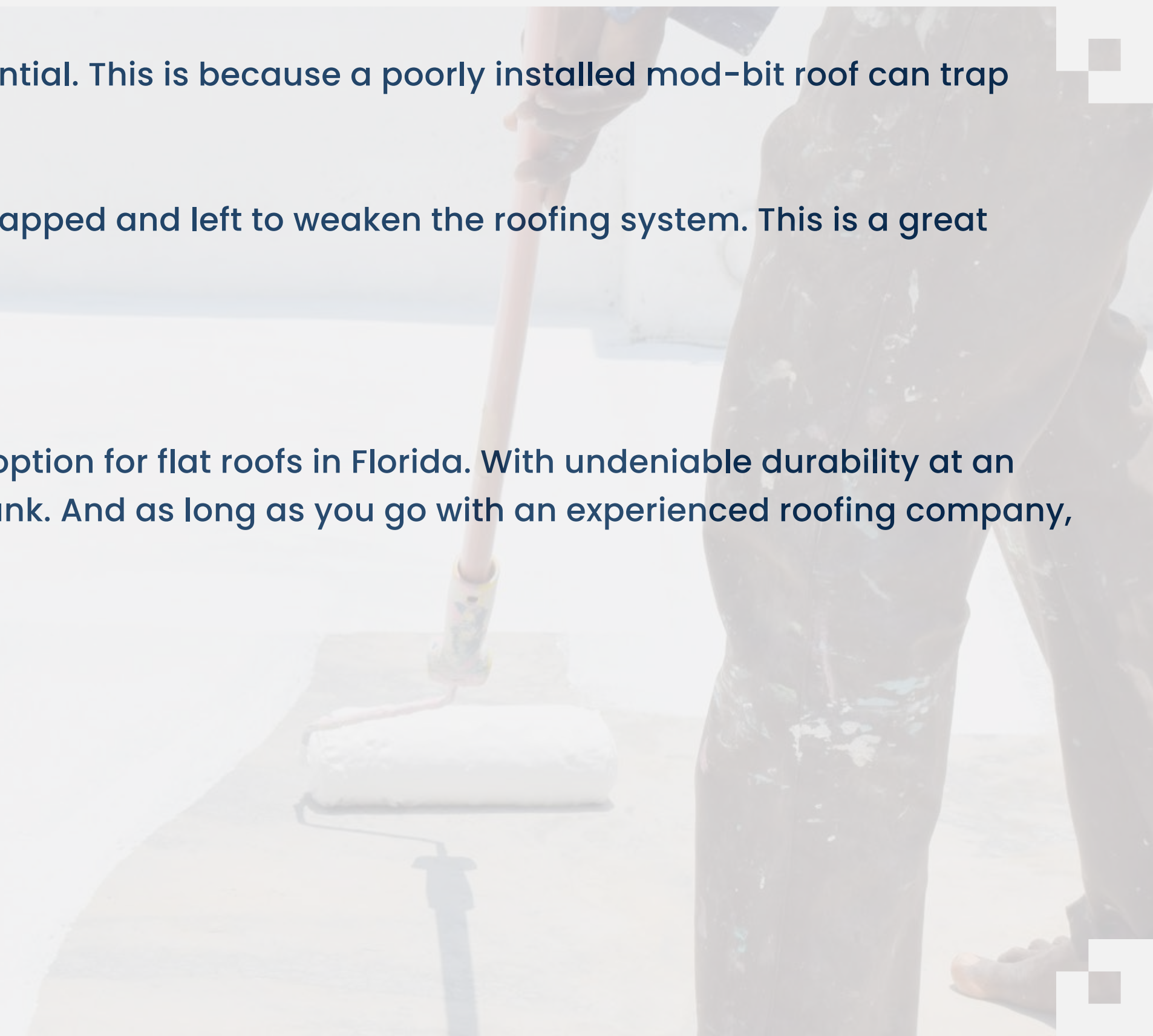
## **IMPROPERLY INSTALLED MOD-BIT CAN TRAP WATER**

When installing a roofing system on a low-slope roof, ensuring that there's proper drainage is essential. This is because a poorly installed mod-bit roof can trap water and lead to pooling, which will quickly weaken your new roof and shorten its lifespan.

However, a qualified roofing contractor will know how to install a mod-bit roof so that no water is trapped and left to weaken the roofing system. This is a great example of why you should carefully choose your roofers.

## **MODIFIED BITUMEN ROOFING: A DURABLE SOLUTION FOR FLAT ROOFS**

Membrane roofing systems are the go-to for low-slope roofs, and mod-bit is an especially strong option for flat roofs in Florida. With undeniable durability at an excellent price point, modified bitumen can protect your home or business without breaking the bank. And as long as you go with an experienced roofing company, you can trust that your mod-bit roofing system will protect your structure for years to come.





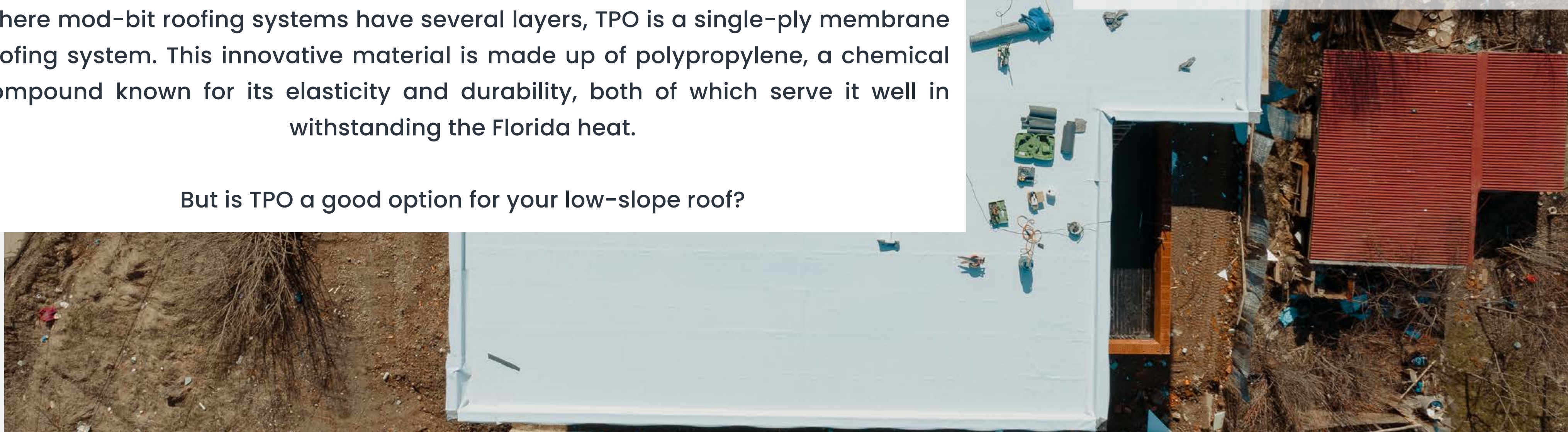
CLASSIC ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION

# THERMOPLASTIC POLYOLEFIN (TPO) ROOFING SYSTEMS



Where mod-bit roofing systems have several layers, TPO is a single-ply membrane roofing system. This innovative material is made up of polypropylene, a chemical compound known for its elasticity and durability, both of which serve it well in withstanding the Florida heat.

But is TPO a good option for your low-slope roof?





# PROS OF TPO ROOFING

## PROS OF TPO ROOFING

TPO roofs are a relatively new option on the market, having entered the United States as an option for flat roofs in the 1990s. Still, while it's a relative newcomer, this roofing material has a lot to offer low-slope roofs in Florida.

### TPO WITHSTANDS UV RAYS AND HEAT

Because of the elastic polymers that make up TPO roofing systems, they're ideal for hot weather. All roofing systems expand and contract with the heat, but TPO is much better at withstanding these temperature fluctuations since its flexibility allows it to seamlessly expand and contract without wearing out.

As an added bonus, TPO roofs naturally reflect UV rays away from your structure and have proven uniquely resistant to damage from the sun's rays. This both lessens the strain on your roof and can effectively lower your energy bill in the hot Florida summer.

### TPO ROOFS ARE ECO-FRIENDLY

In addition to lowering your energy consumption by reflecting heat away from your home or business, TPO can help you go green in other ways. For example, this roofing material is very easy to recycle, unlike other materials like asphalt shingles.

And unlike comparable roofing materials like PVC, TPO roofs do not have harsh chemicals like chlorine that can potentially run off with water and mix into the soil. So if you have a low-slope roof and want to help the planet, TPO roofing may be the perfect choice for you!

### TPO LASTS LONGER THAN OTHER LOW-SLOPE ROOFING SYSTEMS

Since it's only been around since the 1990s, the jury is still out on exactly how long a TPO roof can last. But at the moment, roofing experts think that a well-maintained TPO roof can last from 22 to 30 years, which is a great number for a low-slope roofing system.



# CONS OF TPO ROOFING

While this new roofing technology is very exciting, it's not a perfect fit for every home or business. If you have a low-slope roof, here are a couple of factors that could mean TPO isn't the right pick for you.

## **THERE IS NO ONE STYLE OF TPO**

With other kinds of roofing materials, manufacturers make their own alterations, but the base material is pretty similar. But with TPO, manufacturers are still figuring out how to perfect its composition, so there can be a lot of variety between different types of TPO systems.

So how do you make sure you're getting a quality TPO roofing system? Go with reputable, experienced roofers. Roofing companies have their preferred manufacturers, so if you can trust your roofer to handle your project, then you can trust that they're also using products that will withstand the test of time.

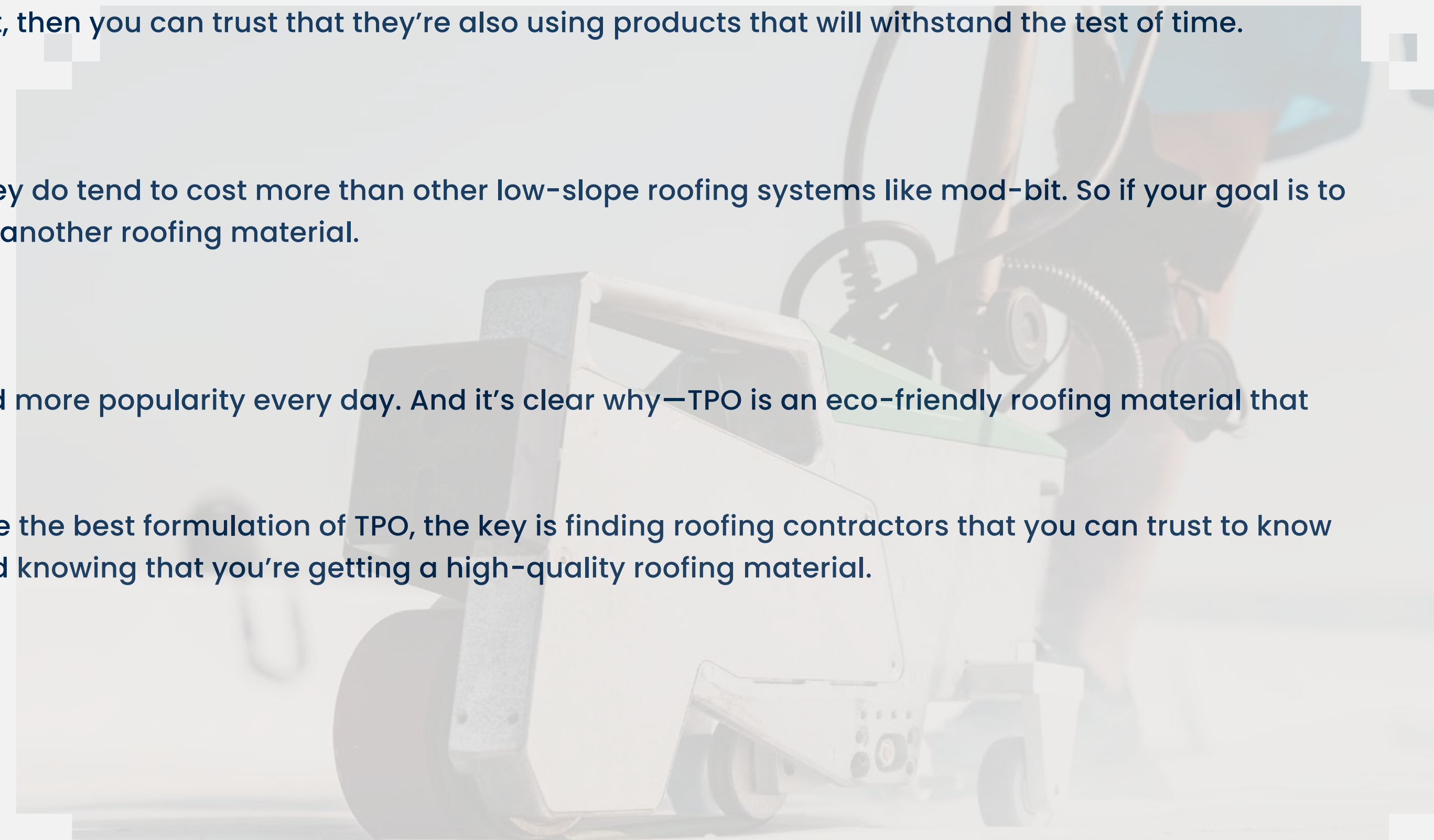
## **TPO CAN BE COSTLY**

To start, TPO roofs are not usually extremely expensive. However, they do tend to cost more than other low-slope roofing systems like mod-bit. So if your goal is to choose the most affordable flat roof, you might be better served by another roofing material.

## **TPO ROOFING: AN INNOVATIVE, ENERGY-EFFICIENT CHOICE**

TPO is still a relatively new roofing technology, but it gains more and more popularity every day. And it's clear why—TPO is an eco-friendly roofing material that stands up well to the weather in sunny Florida.

While some people may be hesitant because manufacturers debate the best formulation of TPO, the key is finding roofing contractors that you can trust to know what's best for your roof. Once you have that, you can move forward knowing that you're getting a high-quality roofing material.





# HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT ROOFING CONTRACTOR

Picking out the right roofing material for your home or business is the first step in getting the new roof of your dreams. But the second step is choosing local roofing contractors that you can trust.

This isn't always easy, though. There are a lot of roofers out there claiming to be the best in the business. So how do you figure out who's telling the truth?

## READ THE ROOFING COMPANY'S REVIEWS

Reviews are the quickest and easiest way to see what real people think of a roofing company. If you're considering a roofing company, type their name into Google or check them out on Angie's List to see if they're really as great as they say.

Keep in mind that a few bad reviews might not be red flags—nobody can please everybody all the time. But if you see a roofing company with consistently poor reviews, or worse, no reviews, then you'll know for sure that you don't want to entrust your roof to them.

At Classic, we've received hundreds of five-star reviews over our 20 years of serving central Florida. This shows you that we're as good as our word, and we always live up to our 100% happiness guarantee.

## CHECK THEIR CREDENTIALS

It's not hard to find a roofing company that claims to be the best at what they do. It's much rarer to find roofers who have the credentials to back it up.

But at Classic, we know that we stand out from the rest. That's because we have GAF Master Elite certification—something that only the top two percent of roofers can say. This annual certification program ensures that our roofers are following the latest guidelines for both performance and safety.

But that's not all it does. GAF only sells their best roofing materials to their trusted roofers, so this certification gets us access to new roofing technologies like solar shingles and other cutting-edge roofing materials. As a bonus, GAF's proof of our quality workmanship means we can also offer the strongest warranties, which means that you get the best support for the lifetime of your roof.



# HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT ROOFING CONTRACTOR

## GO WITH THE CREW YOU CAN TRUST

At the end of the day, no matter what a roofing company says, you need to be able to trust the people who are going to work on your roof. And when you choose Classic, you know for a fact that our crew is full of roofing experts who are passionate about what they do.

How can you know that for sure? Start by verifying that a roofing company is licensed and insured in the state of Florida. Using unlicensed, uninsured roofers is the fastest way to get an improperly installed roof, so make sure not to fall for a company that pretends to be legitimate.

Another great sign of a roofer you can trust is not using sub-contractors. For example, by only using in-house Classic employees, we ensure that everyone working on your roof is licensed and insured. This way, you never have to worry about someone inexperienced or uninsured getting on your roof and doing shoddy work.

If you're ready to discuss roofing options for your home or business, then all you have to do is let us know. Give us a call at (844) 407-1064 to set up your free roofing estimate. We'll work with you to find the perfect roofing material and budget for your project, so reach out and discover why Tampa Bay trusts the crew at Classic for all their roofing needs.

