

# Surviving Roof Material Price Increases



Plan for price increases.



Select a responsible roofing contractor.



Implement a preventive maintenance program.



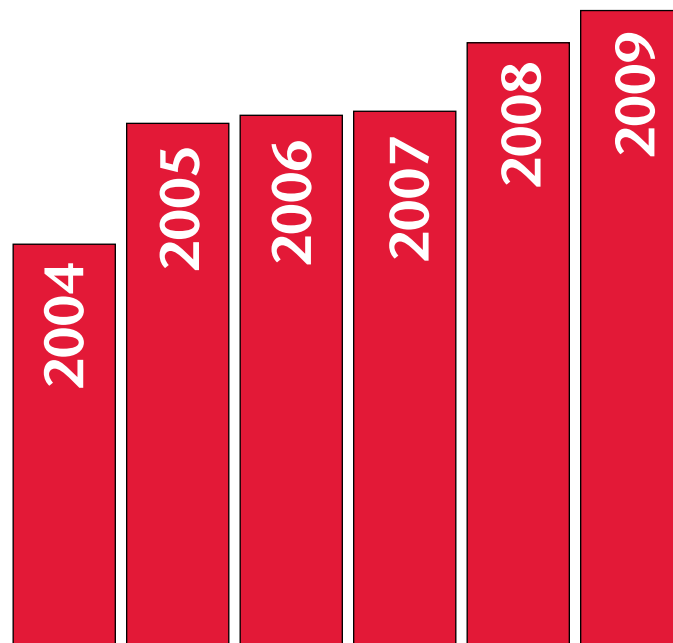
Determine where to spend your first dollar on roofing.

## Gas prices aren't the only things going through the roof.

The costs of roofing construction and repair have remained fairly stable over the years, since the last major material price increase in 2005. However, these costs are on the rise again – quite substantially – due in part to increases in costs related to all major classes of raw materials, energy, transportation, and labor.

In addition, since most roofing materials are made from derivatives of crude oil, the volatility of petroleum prices is a major contributor to continued price increases. Costs are not likely to stabilize in the near future. In fact, manufacturers are predicting continued cost increases well into 2009. What can you do to endure these increases, yet maintain your capital budget?

See our list of money-saving strategies on the back of this report. They will help you survive increasing roof material prices.



Roofing Cost Trends



## Money-saving strategies.

### 1 Plan for price increases.

As you plan for future roofing expenditures, allow for price increases of 10 to 15 percent. Consider purchasing materials early to get in under the likely cost increases. Work with your roofing contractor to purchase and store your materials until construction begins.

### 2 Select a responsible roofing contractor.

Hire a reputable company that is trained and experienced in the type of roofing system being installed or repaired. Make sure they have a formal safety program. Also ensure your contractor is ethical – as prices increase, some contractors may be tempted to use shortcuts and change materials on your roof to stay cost competitive. Inferior roofing not only leads to potential failures and leaks, but your roof may not meet building codes or maintain proper fire ratings. Confirm that any roofing system a contractor recommends meets Factory Mutual fire codes and your insurance company requirements.

### 3 Implement a preventive maintenance program.

A thorough preventive maintenance program that includes inspection, cleaning, repairing, and reporting can pay back even more when roofing prices are high. Proper maintenance and repair can extend the life of an existing roof or help you delay major roofing expenditures. For new roofs, a preventive maintenance program can protect your roofing investment, maintain your manufacturer's warranty, and help you get more years of trouble-free service.

### 4 Determine where to spend your first dollar on roofing.

When replacing a roofing system, a reflective white membrane or coating can prove effective at reducing energy costs and because it slows down the rate of chemical reactions, or degradation, this type of roofing system typically lasts longer. If you are constructing a new roof, consider a flat roof rather than a pitched roof. About 10 percent more roofing materials are required to protect a pitched slope.

**About D. C. Taylor Co.:** With more than 50 years of commercial and industrial roofing experience,

D. C. Taylor Co. provides responsible roofing, inside and out, by delivering expert roofing and roof retention services needed to keep its clients' facilities protected and secure.

D. C. Taylor Co. has more than 60 service and roofing crews and five service areas: Atlanta, Georgia; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Chicago, Illinois; Concord, California and Phoenix, Arizona. The company has been ranked among the nation's largest industrial roofing contractors for over 20 years.



D. C. Taylor Co.  
800-876-6346  
www.dctaylorco.com