

Profiled Sheeting Fixing

TECHNICAL NOTE Et-04/02/en/v1

General guidance

All sheets must be fixed in accordance with the recommendations of BS 8219.

Profiled sheeting should always be fixed with 2 fasteners per sheet per purlin.

The selection of the correct sheet fastener is extremely important. The integrity of the roof covering, type of purlin or rail system, and weatherproofing with washers and caps all must be considered to avoid premature failure, corrosion, or a leaking roof.

Topfix fasteners

Self-drilling, self-tapping 'topfix' fasteners are generally used to fix Profile 6 sheets to the purlins (Fig. 4). These fasteners drill through the Profile 6 sheet, creating a 2mm oversize hole and self tap into the purlin. It is important that the fasteners are installed using the correct power tools, which should have an adjustable depth setting device to ensure the washers are seated correctly. The fasteners typically have different drill points to suit the different purlin types:

When following the recommendations of the fastener manufacturers, please give particular regard to minimum purlin thickness and maximum roof pitch.

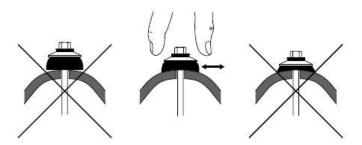


Fig. 4 Checking the topfix fasteners for tightness

Traditional fasteners

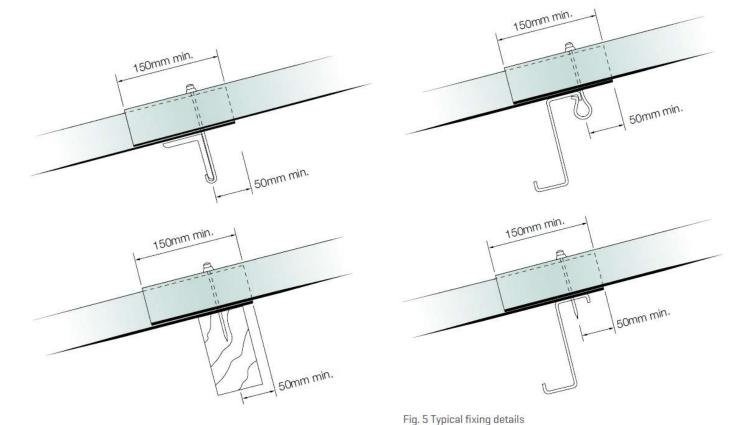
In certain circumstances it may be preferable to use traditional fasteners such as hook bolts, crook bolts and drive screws. There are, however, additional health and safety implications to consider when using these fixings.

The fasteners are generally 8mm diameter for Profile 6 and are fixed through 10mm diameter pre-drilled holes in the sheet. For hook and crook bolts, the fixing should be positioned 4mm upslope from the back leg of the purlin. Drive screws should be located centrally on the purlin.

Profile 3 sheets are generally fixed using 6mm diameter fasteners and an 8mm diameter hole should be drilled through the sheet.







Notes: When fixing to timber purlins, BS 5268: Structural use of Timber, recommends that the minimum edge distance of the fixing should be five times the fixing diameter to avoid undue splitting of the timber.

Fasteners should be installed perpendicular to the plane of the roof.

With some types of insulated cladding, or where sealant has been used, sheet settlement can take place. It may be necessary to retighten the fixings after a suitable period.

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