

SPECIFICATION AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

• Clips

The free edge of the lead flashing must always be 'adequately clipped' to prevent lifting and distortion in high wind conditions. Adequate clipping will depend on the location, orientation and exposure of the building and these, in turn will determine the material used for the clips, their spacing and, most important, the method of fixing. Clips should be spaced at between 300 and 500mm centres depending on exposure. For sheltered exposures clips fixed at the top (as in Fig.1) with a clip at each lap joint and at about 500mm centres will be adequate. However in more exposed situations, this method will not prevent wind lift in storm conditions and additional restraint will be needed. The important principle: 'The lower the fixing the stronger the clips' is illustrated in Fig.3. A typical example of extra fixings to clips are shown in Fig.2. Therefore, although the spacing and the material used are important, the method of fixing is an essential factor to be considered if the clips are to provide effective resistance to wind lift in storm conditions.

• Patination of external leadwork

In rainy or damp conditions new lead sheet flashings will produce an initial, uneven white carbonate on the surface. This can be aesthetically unacceptable in some situations but, more importantly, the white carbonate can be washed off by rain to cause unsightly staining on materials below flashings. To reduce staining and also provide a pleasing appearance, a coat of Patination Oil should be applied to the flashings as soon as practical after fixing. Preferably the oil should be applied no later than the end of the day's work since overnight rain can cause the white stain to develop. Patination Oil should be applied evenly with a soft cloth and, in vulnerable locations such as mansard flashings, fixed over dark grey slates or tiles, it is important to oil

under the lower edge of the flashings and between the laps. Clips along the edges of flashings should be turned over after the oil has been applied.

• Clips—copper

Copper or tinned copper clips should be not less than 50mm wide. The thickness will depend on the exposure of the building. Normally 0.6mm thick tinned copper sheet (0.7 copper) should be specified.

• Clips—stainless steel

These should be cut from austenitic stainless steel sheet or strip not less than 50mm wide and 0.38mm thick. However, for high exposure situations a thicker sheet (0.46 stainless steel) should be used.

• Clips—lead

Lead is only suitable for clips in sheltered locations and the thickness of the sheet used should not be less than the thickness of the flashing.

• Nails

Nails should be large headed copper or austenitic stainless steel, with an annular ring, helical ring or shank not less than 19mm long. The shank diameter of copper nails should not be less than 3.35mm or, for stainless steel, not less than 2.65mm.

• Screws

Screws should be brass or stainless steel complying with BS1210, not less than 19mm long and 3.35mm in diameter.

• For further guidance on specifications of thickness of lead flashings. See detail sheet 1R.

Fig.1 Lead, copper or stainless steel clips turned over top of tile

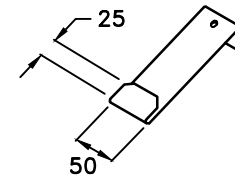


Fig.2 Copper or stainless steel clips with lower fixing

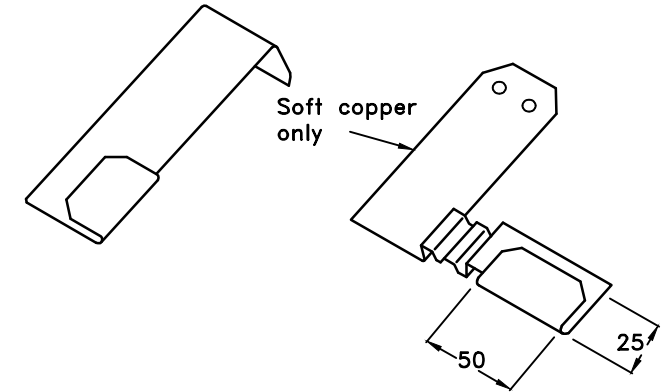
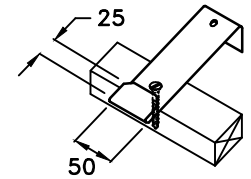
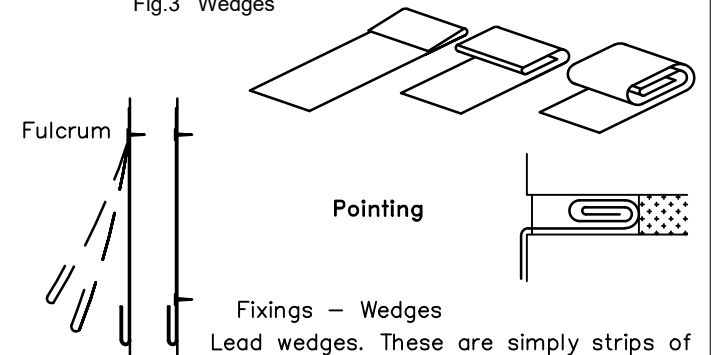


Fig.3 Wedges



Fixings - Wedges
Lead wedges. These are simply strips of lead sheet 20-25mm wide, folded several times to suit the thickness of the joint.

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