

Metal Roof Checklist & Cost-Comparison Worksheet

The questions to ask any contractor, plus a worksheet for comparing metal vs. shingle quotes.

SECTION 1 - Questions to ask a metal roofing contractor

- Are you licensed and insured for metal roofing specifically? Ask for the certificate number.

Answer: _____

- Which profile do you recommend for my roof pitch — standing seam, corrugated, or shingle-style?

Answer: _____

- Which metal (steel, aluminum, copper, zinc) suits my climate, and why?

Answer: _____

- Is this a full tear-off, or will the panels go over my existing roof?

Answer: _____

- What underlayment do you use, and is it rated for metal roofing?

Answer: _____

- Are fasteners hidden (standing seam) or exposed? How often do exposed fasteners need re-tightening?

Answer: _____

- What gauge/thickness metal are you quoting, and what's the coating warranty?

Answer: _____

- How do you flash chimneys, valleys and vent penetrations?

Answer: _____

- What is the manufacturer's warranty vs. your workmanship warranty, and who honors each?

Answer: _____

- What is the payment schedule? Never pay more than 10-30 percent upfront.

Answer: _____

- What is the realistic installation timeline for my roof?

Answer: _____

- Will I get a written, itemized contract specifying panel profile, metal and gauge before work begins?

Answer: _____

SECTION 2 - Cost-comparison worksheet

Quoted price per square foot	_____
Total project cost	_____
Panel profile & metal type	_____
Gauge / thickness	_____
Underlayment included	_____
Tear-off vs. go-over	_____
Manufacturer warranty (years)	_____
Workmanship warranty (years)	_____
Estimated timeline (days)	_____
Payment schedule	_____

Quick decision guide

Staying 10+ years, want the lowest lifetime maintenance? Lean metal.
Budget is the priority, or you may sell soon? Shingles are the safer bet.