

Mini Minutia

Shingling Your Miniature Property

<http://www.miniminutia.com>

<https://www.etsy.com/ca/shop/MiniMinutia>

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History of Shingles

The earliest type of shingles were thin slabs of slate or stone which were used on the roofs of buildings to waterproof the interior. In areas where slate was scarce, rushes/grasses were collected and used to “thatch” a roof. Later, thin “shakes” were cut from wood and overlapped to form a waterproof barrier.

An asphalt shingle is a type of wall or roof shingle that uses asphalt for water-proofing. They are one of the most widely used roofing covers in North America because they have a relatively inexpensive up-front cost and are fairly simple to install.

Asphalt shingles are an American invention first used in 1901, and were in general use in parts of America by 1911 and by 1939, 11 million squares of shingles were being produced. The forerunner of these shingles was first developed in 1893 and called asphalt prepared roofing which was similar to asphalt roll roofing without the surface granules. In 1897, slate granules were added to the surface to make the material more durable. Types of granules tested have included mica, oyster shells, slate, dolomite, fly-ash, silica and clay. In 1901 this material was first cut into strips for use as one-tab and multi-tab shingles.

So, using asphalt shingles on a home is historically correct for all homes built after 1893.

How to Apply Shingles

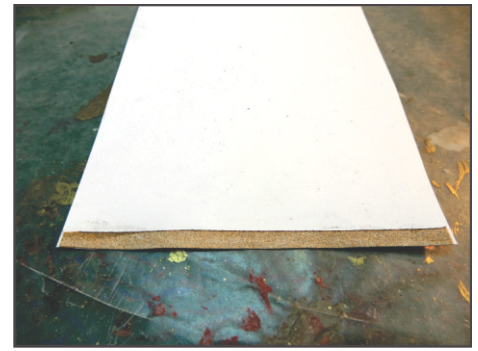
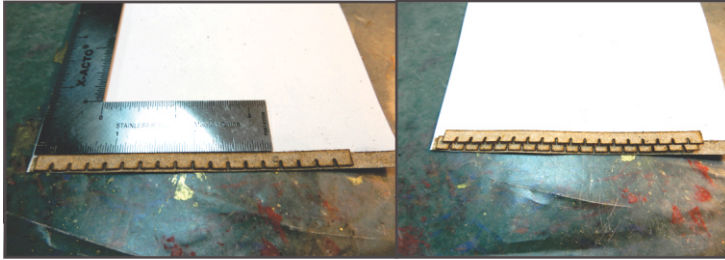
The mistake made by the majority of people when applying shingles is placing the first row of shingles directly on the roof surface. This causes two problems. First, the surface/texture of the roof shows through between the gaps in the first row of shingles, and secondly, the angle of the first row of shingle does not match the angle of the rest of the roof tiles.



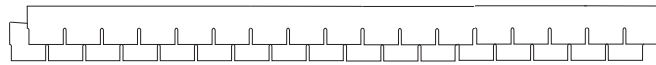
WRONG

CORRECT

This is easily corrected by laying one strip of matching sandpaper, which is half as wide as the shingle strip, to the roof before applying the rest of the shingles. Then, lay your first strip of shingles on top of the plain sandpaper, matching the bottom edges. Make sure it is parallel to the roof edge.

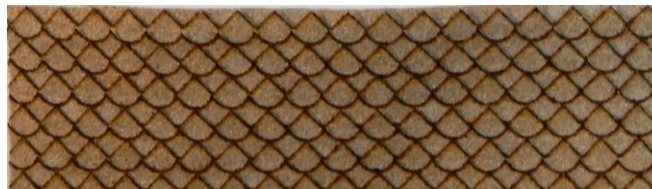


Then, unless you are actively trying to create a pattern with your shingles, overlap the shingles strips by 50%, offsetting the edges of the shingles as shown below.



Making Patterns

With six different shingle shapes to choose from, they can be combined in interesting ways to make patterns across an entire roof, or just as a highlight above gutters, roof peaks, or on the sides of gables or towers. The combinations are only limited by your imagination. Here are a few examples to get you thinking!



Alternating rows of fish scales and diamonds.



Paired rows of fish scale/reverse fish scale inserted into a standard roof.



Two rows of hexagons highlight a roof edge.



Alternating rows of diamonds and octagons.

And don't forget the effects that painting different rows in different colours might have (this is easier to do before the shingles are installed!)

Painting Shingles

These shingle kits are naturally a light beige/brown, and look very much the same colour as cedar shakes. However, if your property is crying out for a roof of a different colour, these shingles can be painted. It is recommended that the painting be done AFTER the shingles have been applied to the roof.

There are three techniques that are useful when painting shingles. 1) Full strength paint (if you want an opaque look to the shingles); 2) using a 'wash' (a mixture of more water than paint), which allows some of the original colour to show through; and 3) using a dry brush technique (dip the brush in paint, and wipe most of it off on a paper towel before applying to the shingle) which highlights the edges points of the shingle. The following three photos illustrate all three techniques, with the top of the strip done with undiluted paint, the middle done with a wash, and the bottom of the strip highlighted with a black dry brush.



**Tomato
Spice**



**Burnt
Umber**



**Hippo
Grey**

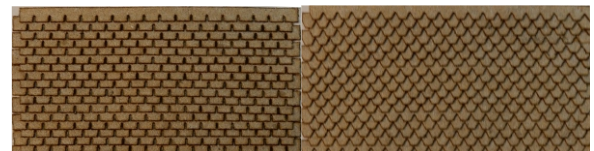
A grey wash, followed by black dry brushing results in an aged look for the shingles. And don't forget to add a few broken corners and a little moss to the cracks of your old roof!

Types of Shingles Available

Shingles can be purchased through the MiniMinutia Etsy store (<https://www.etsy.com/ca/shop/MiniMinutia>) in 1:12, 1:24 or 1:48 scale. All shingle sets are laser-cut from light brown sandpaper, and therefore have a very realistic texture.

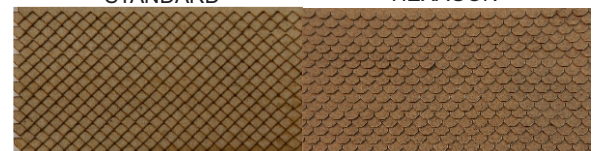
For the 1:12 scale shingles, each set contains 24 9-inch strips of shingles which cover an area of 9"x12", or 108 square inches. For the 1:24 scale shingles, each set contains 12 9-inch strips, which will cover an area of 9"x6", or 54 square inches. For the 1:48 scale shingles, each shingle set contains 60 4.25-inch strips which will cover a surface of approximately 4.25"x7.5" (about 31 square inches).

Each set contains extra matching uncut sandpaper to use for gutter, roof caps, etc. Shingle sets are also available as a variety pack, including one sheet of each type of shingle.



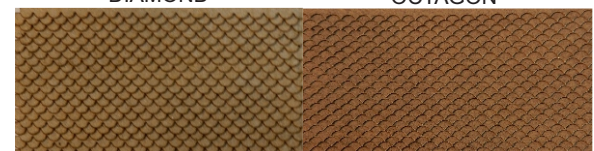
STANDARD

HEXAGON



DIAMOND

OCTAGON



FISHSCALE

REVERSE FISHSCALE