

Tudor Roof Tiles

# Authentic Kent Peg Tiles



## Tiles Like No Others



# TRADITIONAL KENT PEG TILES

Genuine handmade peg tiles have a character and aesthetic appeal that suits the traditional English built environment like no other.

Named after the wooden pegs by which they were originally attached to the timber laths or battens, they can be seen on many of our historic country houses, barns, farm buildings and churches particularly in Kent and across the South East of England.

With no two tiles exactly the same, a roof made from peg tiles is truly unique. However, this subtle variation in the texture, camber and colour can only be achieved through painstaking handmade processes passed down over the centuries.



## History of Peg Tiles

Peg tiles go back as far back as the 12th and 13th centuries, a time when every town and village would have had its own brick and tile-maker.

The colour, texture and shape of these popular regional tiles varied across the country depending on the mix of the local clay and aggregates, the temperature and length of time in the kiln as well as the skill of the tile maker.

Kent peg tiles for example were typically a warm orange red, but would vary between this and dark red depending on the temperatures and time within the kiln.

Tile sizes also varied from region to region, and despite a Royal Charter of 1477 decreeing that plain tiles should be standardised to 10½" x 6¼", Kent Peg Tiles typically remained 10" x 6" (254mm x 152mm).

In reality, variations up to 1 inch (25.4mm) in length and ½ inch (12.7mm) were commonplace in other counties. Peg holes were roughly rectangular, though circular holes became common in later years.

By the mid nineteenth century, clay peg tiles had evolved into 'plain' clay tiles with nibs (or projections) on the underside of the top edge for hooking onto the timber battens, however the simple peg tile has never lost its enduring appeal particularly in the South East.

# Traditional Tile Making Today at Tudor

Tudor Roof tiles has preserved and refined the art of handmade tile making, by combining age-old craftsmanship and high quality clay with advanced firing techniques.

□ Preparation of the clay - English Marl red clay is dug from the quarry, crushed and then allowed to stand for a few weeks to weather naturally. It is then blended with a little sand and water and put through a vacuum process to remove any air bubbles that could lead to frost damage.

□ Hand making - The clay is sliced into suitable sized slabs. Face sand is applied and then the clay is formed using a hand press then trimmed to size. These handmade processes are vital to recreating the idiosyncratic character and uniqueness of sand faced peg tiles.

□ Drying - Initially the clay tiles are dried naturally on support trays to prevent cracking during shrinkage, before accelerating the process with warm air so that each tile finally has less than 0.2% moisture and is ready to fire.

□ Firing - The tiles are fired in a modern gas-fuelled kiln with temperatures reaching 1100 degrees centigrade. Advanced firing techniques, safety controls and energy efficient burners ensure that these traditional tiles achieve exceptional performance and durability.

□ Quality Control -The face of each tile is inspected for quality, colour and flaws, and then it is 'rattled' so as to hear if it has any cracks. Good tiles are stacked and bound on recycled wooden pallets ready for delivery to customers. Random sample tiles are taken off the kiln after firing and these are subjected to testing for size, strength and water absorption.

## Making a Tile

### 1 Face Sand Applied



### 2 Clay into Mould



### 3 Tile Pressed



### 4 Cut to Thickness



### 5 Fired to 1100 degree



### 6 Sorted & Dispatched





---

# Why Choose Tudor Peg Tiles?

At Tudor, we combine traditional handmade tile making with advanced firing techniques in order to produce 'olde world' looking peg tiles compatible with the tiles of yesteryear.

□ Time-weathered- their rustic, weather-worn and 'instant-aged' appearance is often recommended by conservationists looking for modern like-for-like replacement peg tiles.

□ Mellow tones - their subtle muted colours blend naturally with older buildings, complementing the English architectural landscape.

□ Bespoke sizes - they can be produced in bespoke and non-standard sizes that suit the regional variations in peg tile sizes found on our historic buildings.

□ Complementary accessories - a variety of matching ornamental tiles and accessories are available, including creasing tiles and specialist bat access tiles.

□ Modern quality standards - all Tudor roof tiles exceed the latest BS:EN 1304 Standards and are CE (UKCA) marked.

□ Guaranteed to last - our tiles come with our own 30 year performance guarantee (terms available from our website).

## OUR EXPERIENCE

Tudor Roof Tile Co Limited is one of the last remaining independent English manufacturers of traditional handmade clay roof tiles.

Over the years, our range of peg and plain tiles have been used on numerous barn conversions, historic Grade I and Grade II listed buildings, period mansions, oast conversions, churches and historic town centres as well as residential homes often located in conservation areas.

With our experience in restoration projects, we work with homeowners, architects and planners in order to provide sympathetic plain or peg tiles that will preserve the architectural integrity of historic and period buildings.

With 10 colourways now available, plus our bespoke size service, you can be sure to find the best choice available.

Often imitated but never bettered, Tudor Tiles are the roof tiles of choice.

---

## KEEP YOUR ROOF UNIQUE

Tudor Roof Tile Co Limited  
Dengemarsh Road  
Lydd  
Romney Marsh  
Kent TN29 9JH

Tel: 01797 320202

Email: [info@tudorrooftiles.co.uk](mailto:info@tudorrooftiles.co.uk)

Web: [www.tudorrooftiles.co.uk](http://www.tudorrooftiles.co.uk)