



Making Metal Roof Ridge Caps Ember Resistant

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North Fork Firewise Day

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The Problem:

- **Metal Ridge Caps are installed with foam strip inserts to keep needles and moss, etc., from getting under the ridge cap.**
- **These foam strips fall out over time because of expansion and contraction of metal roofs.**
- **This leads to combustible material – needles, moss, etc. – collecting under the ridge cap.**



T. Wiley

Our Solution:

- **Remove existing ridge cap**
- **Clean out debris – needles, moss, etc**
- **Remove screws in the top of the metal roofing at the peak**
- **Roof work is dangerous. We rented a manlift from Midway Rental**



- **This is a sample of what accumulated under our ridge cap over 30 years.**
- **The foam seals had fallen out long ago**
- **Larch needles and moss were packed in under the ridge cap.**
- **Do you think an ember could ignite this?**
- **Excellent fire starter!!!**



- **J Strips are shaped like a “J”**
- **Two kinds – these are solid, for unventilated roofs.**
- **Long edge slides under the existing metal roofing and needs to be screwed down.**
- **Short edges are under the ridge cap, and the ridge cap can be reattached using the same screw holes.**



- **Perforated J Strip has (1/8" holes) for ventilated roofs**
- **Long edge slides under the existing metal roofing and needs to be screwed down.**
- **Short edges are under the ridge cap, and the ridge cap can be reattached using the same screw holes.**



- **Insert the long edge of the J Strip under the metal roofing and reattach screws through the long edge and the metal roofing.**
- **Re-lay the ridge cap on top of the J Strip sealing the peak**
- **We used steel wool stuffed in the ends of the ridge cap to seal the ends from embers.**

Why Is This Important???



Wedge Canyon Fire 2003

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Wedge Canyon Fire 2003

Questions?



**We got our J Strip material from Highline Metal Roofing Products
210 East Cottonwood Drive, Kalispell MT
\$9.50 (2025) for a 10'2" strip, 2" overlap.
Two strips cover 10' of ridge cap**