

Design information for all Timber and Steel Roofs

1. Purlin Spacing for Corrugated roof sheeting

The South African Metal Cladding and Roofing Association (SAMCRA) have put forward the following table with the recommended minimum sheeting thicknesses and maximum purlin spacing for profiled sheeting.

Minimum base metal thickness (BMT): coated steel

Profile	Grade of steel	Minimum BMT (mm)	Maximum purlin spacing
Corrugated iron	550 MPa	0.46	900
	300 MPa	0.54	900
Other	550 MPa	0.46	1150
	300 Mpa	0.54	1150

The maximum purlin spacing is based on a purlin spanning over 3 supports.

The base metal thickness is based on a minimum with only a positive tolerance. The nominal BMT would be in the region of 0.48 and 0.56 and the nominal coated thickness, 0.5 and 0.58 respectively.

MiTek Technical and Customer support will put together an update to the programs to make the necessary changes, but please bear this in mind until the update has been loaded.

2. The use of Laminated Timber in roof construction.

It has been agreed at the Timber Engineering Advisory Committee (TEAC) that any structural member used in the timber roof construction needs to be graded and marked as such. For laminated timber, the timber beams need to be marked in accordance with SANS 1460; laminated timber must be marked on one face with the manufacturers name and the classification of the timbers.

CapeLam and Lamtico are registered marks of a manufacturer of laminated timber and not generic types of laminated timber.

This means that in future, all laminated timber must be designed in accordance with a Grade Stress, and this Grade mark must be displayed on the Laminated Beam.

For example, if you can source laminated timber to a Grade 8, this Grade mark and manufacturer of the beam must be displayed on the final beam.