

Roof Greening

Frequently mentioned concerns:

- The roots might damage the roof structure
- Higher maintenance required
- Green roof needs to be watered regularly
- Additional weight of the substrate and green might be too high
- More heating and rodents might find their way into the building
- Gabled or shed roofs cannot hold roof greening

The Facts:

- The roof structure is protected by the substrate and plants. The entire structure needs to be detailed with care to avoid damage caused by roots.
- Platform roofs heat up extremely during the summer. Green roofs do not reach temperatures higher than the surrounding one. Protection against UV radiation, hail and damages by storm doubles the roof's duration of life.
- Once the plants have taken root, especially with extensive vegetation, the maintenance needed is very low
- Especially during heavy rainfall, a phenomenon increasing in quantity and intensity due to climate change, the vegetation can retain a large amount of water. The microclimate benefits from the additional evaporation.
- The weight of roof greening systems needs to be taken into account. Light-weight systems for low load bearing capacities, i.e. carports, are available.
- Insects and rodents prefer green areas over interior spaces. They only enter the buildings, whenever the offer of green areas is not sufficient.
- Vegetation can be grown on sloped, gabled or shed roofs as well

For planning and execution support for roof greening projects, please contact Atelier Winkler at:

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