

Roof Retrofitting for Resilience

FOR HOMEOWNERS AND BUILDING PROFESSIONALS FROM THE DOMINICA HOME RETROFIT GUIDE



In 2024, the Ministry of Housing conducted a **nationwide survey** of over **500** existing houses.

The results show that there has been a **14% reduction** in the **vulnerability of houses** since Hurricane Maria (2017).

However 63% of roofs are still **highly vulnerable** due to poor design and construction of galvanize roofs.



BUT DID YOU KNOW?

In most cases, galvanize roofs can be made safer with a **roof retrofit!**



Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica



So what is retrofitting?



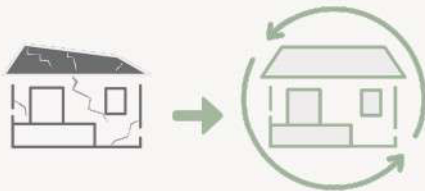
New construction:

A new house is built on an empty plot.



Repair:

Damage is repaired and the house is returned to its original condition.



Retrofitting:

Any damage is repaired AND key elements of the house are strengthened and upgraded to increase resilience.

Should I retrofit my house?

Houses in Dominica are at risk of damage from natural hazards and climate change. Retrofitting is a time and cost effective way to protect your property and family.

Retrofitting is appropriate and cost effective for approximately **80% of houses** in Dominica!

Look out for the **Dominica Retrofit Guide** for more tips on retrofitting. To learn more, visit the project survey.housing.gov.dm or contact cdri.coordinator@gmail.com.



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Australian Government
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UK Government

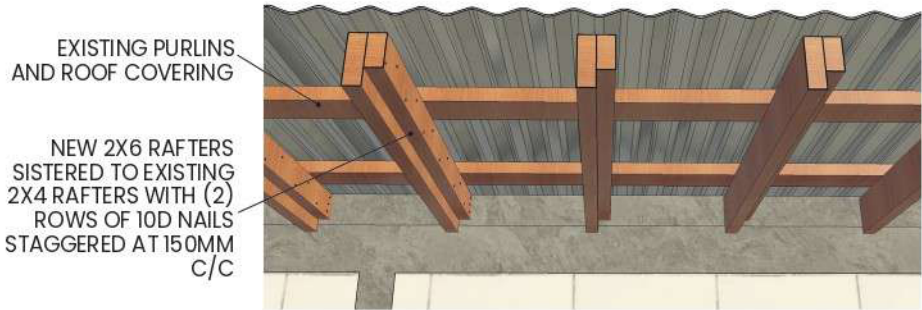


How can I retrofit my roof?

The key to a strong roof is strong **framing**, strong **connections** and strong **galvanize**. If you are concerned about your roof, talk to an engineer or builder about one these three retrofits.

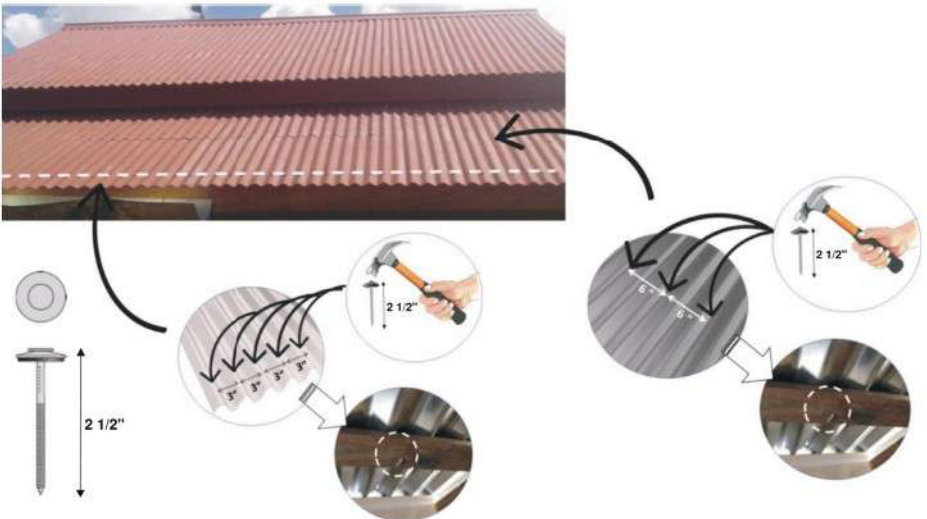
1. Strong Framing

If the rafters are spaced more than 2 foot apart, or are smaller than 2x6, sister a new rafter:



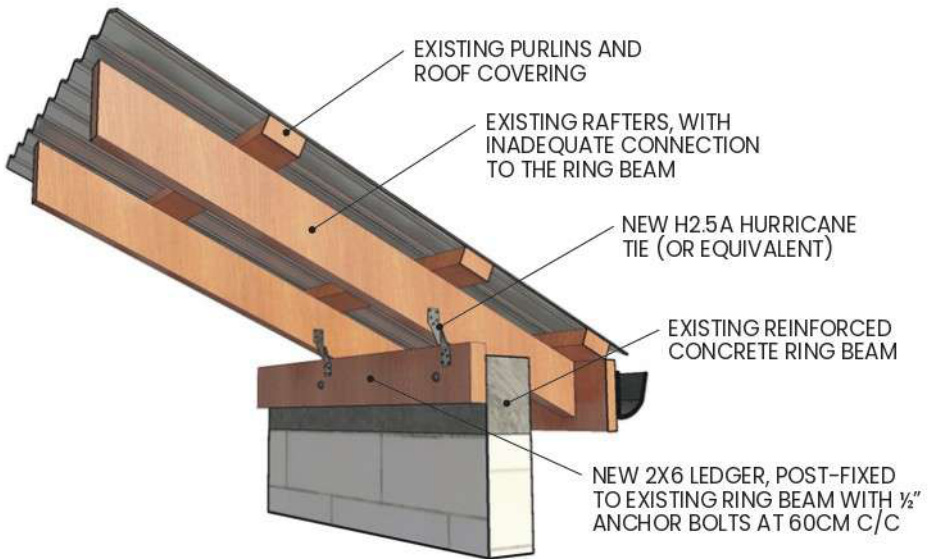
2. Strong Galvanize

Swap out any roof sheets that are damaged or thinner than gauge 24, and make sure there are enough screws:



3. Strong Connections

Strengthen the connection between the roof and the ring beam by adding a ledger:



Improve the connection between the rafters and the ridge by adding collar ties:

