Vertical alignment on interlocking tiles is, for the most part, controlled by the natural seat of the interlocking channels of the adjacent tiles. It is important however to establish a true vertical alignment prior to application of field tiles to assure a symmetrical installation. Proper roof layout greatly enhances the appearance and performance of the installed roof and serves to simplify and speed the application of the tile. A few minutes devoted to layout at the beginning of the job can result in significant savings of time and effort as the job progresses.

On a gable roof installation, the first vertical guideline is established by installing the first three tiles of the eave course and measuring the distance from the leading edge of the third tile back to the rake edge. This increment is then marked at the ridge course and a chalk line is snapped to delineate the vertical guide.

The exposed width dimension of the tile is then determined and measured from the vertical guide as frequently as needed to maintain proper alignment. Most often this measurement is marked in three-tile increments.

Vertical lines shall be perpendicular to the eave.

Mark a point at the eave line as close to the center of the hip section as possible. Measure a point away from either side of the center point (5’-10” if possible) making sure that both marks are the same distance from the center line. Using a tape measure or lines of exactly the same length. Swing an arc away from each mark to intersect as high on the hip as possible. The intersection point of the arcs represent the high point of the vertical line above the mark made near the center of the eave line. A chalk line may be snapped to provide vertical reference Incremental measurements may then be taken in either direction from this center line to provide guidelines for vertical alignment.

On small hip sections, careful attention to horizontal alignment and proper tile placement is usually adequate to maintain vertical alignment.

On larger roof sections, it is helpful to establish solid vertical alignment to ensure uniform appearance and ease of application.