Classic Oakwork...

...Beautifully Finished

OAKMASTER

Traditional and Contemporary Oak Vaulted Roofs

Valuable Asset

Elevation and vertical space are luxuries often associated with the traditional architecture of royalty, aristocracy or even the Divine. The evidence of this is recognisable in a plethora of listed buildings across Britain. The exposed timbers of a vaulted roof provide a sense of expanse and status, and serve a sturdy purpose to the structure of the building. Oak has been relied upon as a robust building material in this context for many centuries and has always been valued for its architectural magnificence.

Today, using a combination of the tradition of the past with cutting edge methods, we are able to complement modern architecture with such structures. The incorporation of a full or partially vaulted oak ceiling can be an enormous benefit to the value of a property, maximising the available area so that the proportions of the building appear dramatic and enlarged.

Oak Roofs

Whilst a full oak frame is not always appropriate or required, the addition of a roof constructed from high quality oakwork to a new build, extension or renovation is a highly valuable asset. Not only this but it is unmistakably striking and unique.

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An oak roof can comprise anything from simply one or more bespoke trusses to the inclusion of wall plates (horizontal load-bearing wall beams), purlins, rafters, ridges and even traditional sarking boards.

The principle components of an oak roof are the trusses. These are hand crafted and assembled, supplied as preconstructed A-frame units, ready to be simply lifted into place on site. Truss designs are based on three main patterns (page 3), but many variations are possible to suit the style of the surroundings or individual aspirations.

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King Post Truss (with rafters) - straight post vertically from tie beam, with diagonal struts

Medieval Truss (with rafters) - these are similar to the King Post style but with the tie beam raised up and knee braces forming an arch

Queen Post Truss (with rafters) – two vertical posts and a collar forming a square shape

Design

Oakmasters are pleased to provide the consultancy services of our agents free of charge within the overall cost of the required components. We can advise on the appropriate location of trusses, the probable section sizes required, stylistics and the general layout. We also produce a CAD section drawing of the trusses themselves to agree their dimensions and relative positions to walls, rafters and other components. If needed we can draw up full detailed plans for wider aspects of your project, however there is a charge for this service, which would be priced on application.

Structural Calculations

A vaulted ceiling is, of course, intended to act as a structural entity and any oak roof, unless it is simply cosmetic, will require structural calculations from a chartered engineer to comply with the building regulations governed by your local authority. Oakmasters are delighted to offer this service to our clients for an individually quoted fee. If you have your own professionals, we are equally happy to respond to independent structural requirements and designs. If at all possible however, it is best to find a structural engineer who has previous experience dealing with oak.

Installation

The majority of clients tend to manage the installation of our oak roofs themselves through their own building contractors. The assembly of an Oakmasters oak roof is a fairly simple procedure, since the components are produced as an integrated kit and most of the hard work is already done. The kit can be craned and cut in by any skilled roofer. In the case of a more complicated or specialist structure installation may require the expertise of our specialist craftsmen and if so we are happy to quote as required.

"Quality is not an act, it is a habit."

V.S

- Aristotle

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