# Chapter 47: Vented Ridge Cap

## Most Common Mistakes:

1. Failure to glue insulation to underside of ridge cap.
2. Not setting ridge cap to stringlines.
3. Omitting vented closure strips.
4. Trying to avoid vented closures overhanging roof steel top edge.
5. Not caulking between overlaps.
6. Roofing overhangs at sides too far.

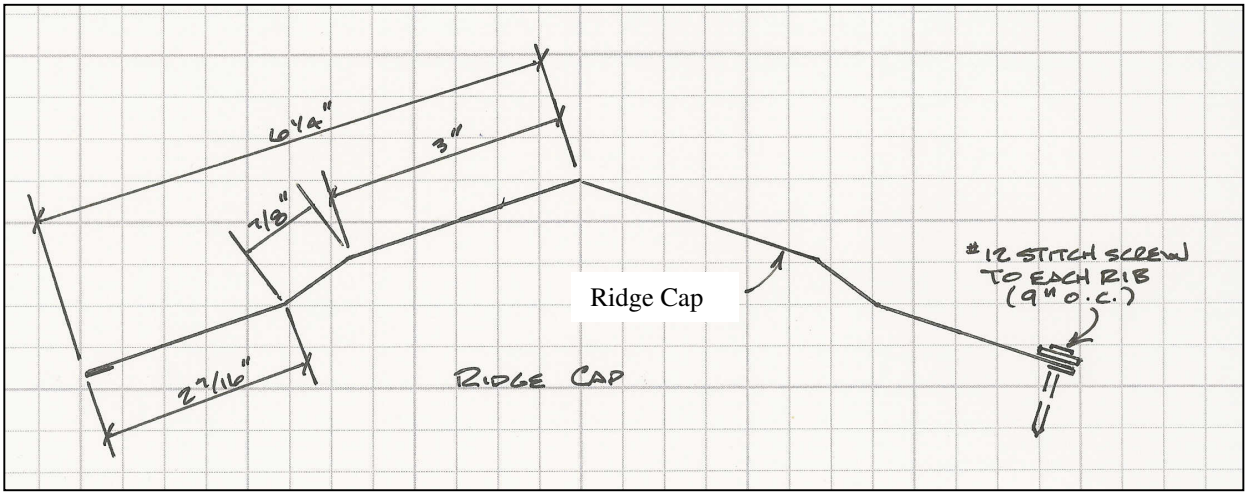


**Figure 47-1** **Ridge Cap**

**Central States : RCP ( 6-3/4" each side )**
**McElroy: P-RC-13 shown**
**Union Corrugating : RC14H ( 6-5/8" each side )**

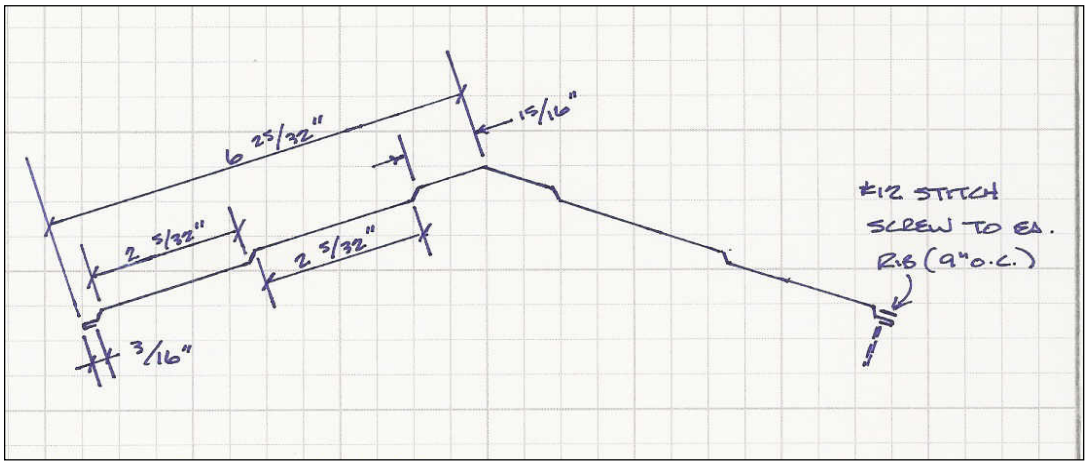


**Figure 47-2** **Ridge Cap**
**(Sizes and design vary by vendor)**

**ABC: LG-101**
**Fabral: AR-3 shown**
**Metal Sales: Part #42023**

Ridge Cap sizes, design and terminology vary from manufacturer to manufacturer. Some producers label their trims by the actual width of the steel flat sheet the trim is manufactured from,

**IMPORTANT!** Prior to Ridge Cap installation, use glue (any good construction adhesive which will work with painted metal surfaces is adequate) to attach cutoff insulation pieces to Ridge Cap underside (foil towards Ridge Cap). Failure to properly do this will result in condensation forming on Cap underside and dripping inside building.

With reflective insulation, cut insulation flush with ridge purlin uphill (towards peak), then staple to ridge purlins. **See Figure 47-3**

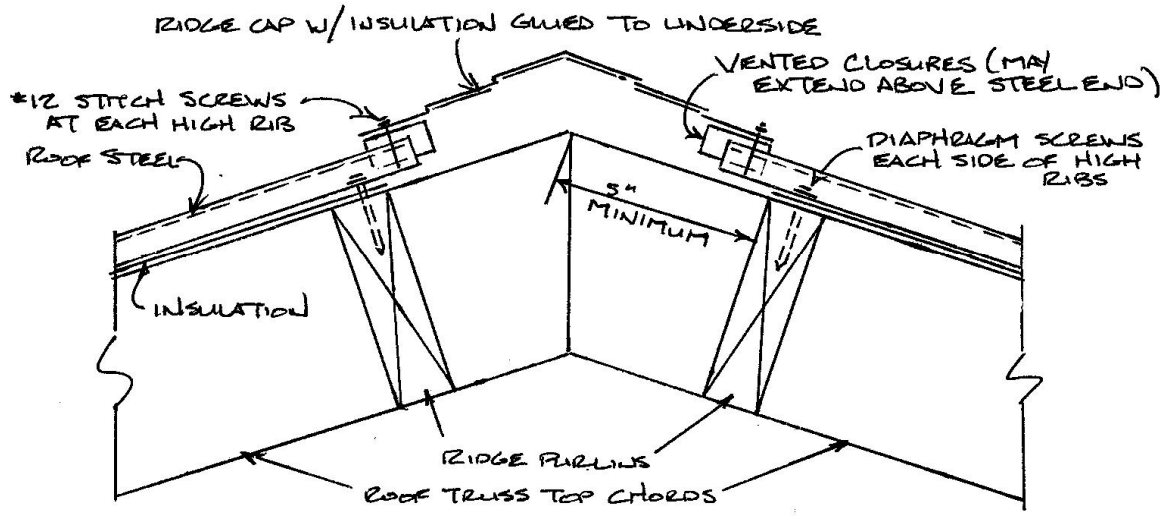


**Figure 47-3**

Place a Ridge Cap piece centered on building peak. Make a pencil mark at lower edges at both building ends, on end truss/rafter or varge rafter tops. Partially drive nails at these marks and run string lines from end-to-end of building and attach to nail heads. The stringlines will make Ridge Cap easier to align and provide a measuring point for locating form-fitted VENTED outside closure strips.

Press Outside VENTED Closure Strips into place, the building length, on both sides of peak. If building has overhangs past one of both endwalls, closures in overhang areas will NOT be vented (solid Outside Closures will be used in overhang areas). Closure low edge will be ½" or so up from string line (confirm Ridge Cap will cover low edge of closure when installed). Cut off any closure within 2-1/4" of outside edge of endwall framing. (Any closure in this area will interfere with rake trim.)

Any cutoff closure strip portions can be placed between rake trim peak and ridge cap at each building end (on top of rake trim, under ridge cap).

Install first Ridge Cap piece on peak at building back, allowing an overhang beyond end truss/rafter or varge rafter by 2-1/2". **See Figure 47-4.** Fasten with #12 stitch screws

through ridge cap edge flange and VENTED closure strips into all roof steel high ribs. As stitch screws attach ridge cap directly to steel roofing, ridge purlin location has no effect on ridge cap installation.

Run two caulk beads at first Ridge Cap piece end to seal to next overlapping Ridge Cap. Lap next Ridge Cap a 3" minimum over first. Press seams together and so on down building. Trim last piece, if necessary, to overhang either end truss/rafter or varge rafter by 2-1/2" at building front end.

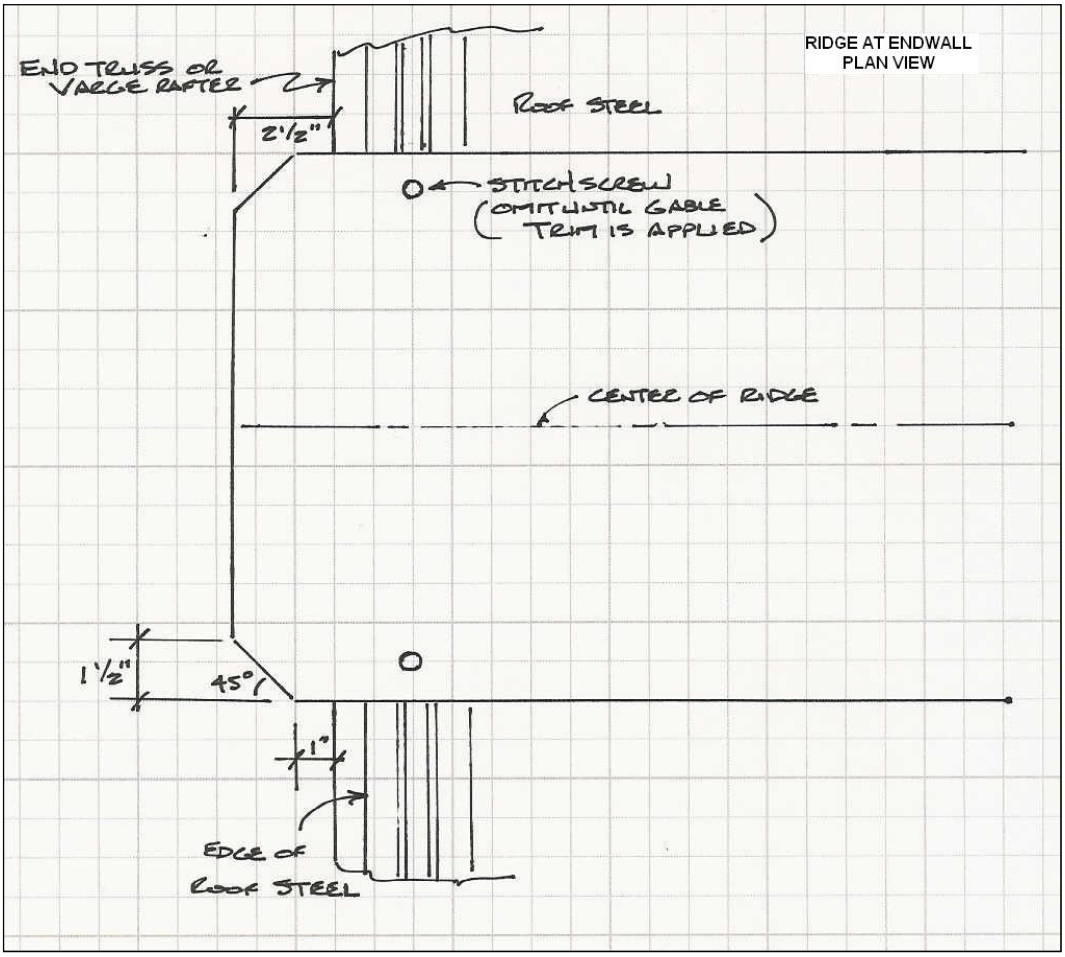


**Figure 47-4**

Trim a 45 degree angle 1-1/2" from each overhanging ridge cap corner. Do not place last (closest to building ends) stitch screws until after rake trim has been installed.

Clean roof after installation. Swarf left on steel surfaces will cause unsightly rust stains and lead to a reduced life span. Sweep or hose all metallic swarf and other debris from roof areas at each day end and at construction completion. Remove any swarf stuck on a finish. Take great care not to remove paint or metal coatings. Inspect again two weeks after completion, when rain or condensation will have caused any remaining swarf to rust, and thus highlight affected areas.