

Birdsmouth
A cut made in the underside of a rafter where it notches over the eaves beam. The depth of the birdsmouth should be one third of the depth of the rafter.

Collar
A horizontal timber fixed between rafters to brace the roof structure.

Common rafter
The main rafter which is either supported by a purlin or the ridgeboard on smaller span buildings.

Cripple Jack rafter
A rafter that is connected to both a hip rafter and a valley rafter.

Crown rafter
A common rafter on a hip end which stretches from eaves to ridge.

Eaves beam (Wallplate)
Horizontal beams that supports the rafters

Hip rafter
A diagonal rafter that fixes the corner of the building to the ridge.

Hip Jack rafter
A rafter that is connected to a hip rafter.

Purlin
Horizontal beams that support the rafters (on larger spans)

Ridge
Horizontal timber supporting the rafters at the apex of the roof.

Tie beam
Horizontal beam that 'ties' the eaves beams to stop the roof spreading

Valley Jack rafter
A rafter that is connected to a valley rafter

Valley rafter
Diagonal rafter that rises from an internal corner of the building.

Barn hip (Dutch hip)

