


## Material Compatibility Guidelines for Roofing and Cladding

Correct material pairing is critical to the long-term performance of any metal roofing or wall cladding system. This document outlines the compatibility of our common metals, focusing on both direct contact and runoff water.

Two types of interaction must be considered when combining metals:

- Contact Compatibility: Occurs when two dissimilar metals are in direct contact
- Runoff Compatibility: Occurs when rainwater flows from one metal onto another

### Material Compatibility Matrix

 ARCHITECTURAL METALFORMERS								
		Aluminium	Aluminium (pre-painted)	AZ/AM Coated Steel (pre-painted)	Zinc	Copper	Brass	Stainless Steel
Material water flows from								
Aluminium	Contact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	?
	Run onto	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Aluminium (pre-painted)	Contact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
	Run onto	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
AZ/AM Coated Steel (pre-painted)	Contact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
	Run onto	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Zinc	Contact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	?
	Run onto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Copper	Contact	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
	Run onto	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Brass	Contact	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
	Run onto	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Stainless Steel	Contact	?	✗	✗	?	✓	✓	✓
	Run onto	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

Key	
✓	Suitable
✗	Not suitable
?	May need separation. Use with caution in severe or moist environments

### Key Takeaways

- Avoid copper or brass contact with aluminium, zinc, or coated steel
- Do not allow copper runoff onto any other material except stainless steel or copper/brass
- Zinc and aluminium are broadly compatible but should not be downstream of copper

Contact Architectural Metalformers for project-specific technical support.