

2. FORMS OF SKYRISE GREENERY

ROOFTOP GARDENS

Intensive Rooftop Garden

Intensive green roofs, usually called 'roof gardens', are developed to be accessible for use (Scholz-Barth, 2001). Hence, they usually incorporate areas of paving and seating. The added weight, higher capital cost, intensive planting and higher maintenance requirements characterize intensive green roofs (Peck et al., 1999). The plant selection ranging from ornamental lawn, to shrubs, bushes and trees consequently affects the weight, build-up heights and costs of the roof garden (Zinco, 2000). Further, regular garden maintenance such as mowing, fertilizing, watering and weeding is required for intensive landscapes.

Extensive Green Roofs

Extensive green roofs are not designed for public use and are mainly developed for aesthetic and ecological benefits (Scholz-Barth 2001). They are distinguished by being low cost, lightweight (50-150 kg/m²) and with shallow mineral substrates. Minimal maintenance is required and inspection is performed once or twice a year. Plants selected tend to be of low maintenance and self-generative. Extensive systems can be placed on pitched roofs of up to 30 degrees (Kalzip Nature Roof, 2001) and are common in European countries such as Germany.

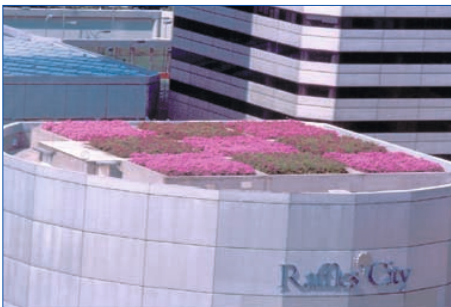


Figure 2: Extensive Green Roof (left) and Intensive (right) Roof Garden

GREENERY ON OTHER PARTS OF BUILDINGS

This includes greening of other parts of buildings, such as the facade with planting on balconies, planter boxes, creepers on walls, and mid level planting on intermediate levels and terraces.

DECKING OVER ROADS OR CANALS

Decking over roads or canals may not be commonly associated with skyrise greenery, but is included here as they involve planting on structures with the same considerations as those for planting on high-rise structures.