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Technical Advisory Bulletin

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, Design Services,
CARE
From: Residential Consumer Services
No: TAB-R-114

Hand-Sealing Shingles

What Is Hand-Sealing?

Hand-sealing is the method to assure and enhance sealing of shingles with roofing cement (ASTM D4586) on very steep slopes, in high wind areas, and when installing in cold weather.

GAF may choose to hand-seal a roof or slope of a roof if there has been insufficient heat or sun exposure to seal shingles and blow-off damage has occurred. This does not mean that the sealant is defective, only that there has not been sufficient heat to activate the sealant. Failure of a shingle to seal due to insufficient heat is not a manufacturing defect.

When Should Shingles Be Hand-Sealed?

Hand-seal shingles when installing:

- In cold weather, fall or winter
- On steep slopes (greater than 21:12 roof slopes)
- On mansard roofs
- While performing repairs
- After installation of accessories, such as power vents, diverters, or skylights
- Shingles up the rake of the roof for added wind protection
- In wind-blown dust/sand areas

How Does Hand Sealing Get Done?

Check shingle application instructions to determine the number and location of the dabs of cement to be used for and sealing. All GAF shingle application instructions have hand-sealing procedures listed. Follow the instructions for the particular product to be sealed.

- **Use a caulking gun or small trowel** to place dabs of cement under the shingle to be sealed.
- **Use a quarter sized dabs of cement** as a guide to judge the correct amount of cement to be used.
- **Press shingle into cement** to fully seal these shingles.

Note: Too much cement can run down the face of the shingle or cause blistering.

Questions?

GAF Residential Consumer Services Can Assist You with these and other questions you may have. Residential Consumer Services can be contacted at 877-423-7663. The GAF website is a great resource for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. Please visit www.gaf.com to find the latest information on our products and their installation.

Important: This document supersedes any prior GAF Technical Advisory Bulletins on this topic. Please always check www.gaf.com to make sure you have the most up to date information.