

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

**To:** GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, GAF Field Services

**From:** Technical Services Department

**Subject:** *Hand-Sealing Shingles*

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## ***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 or skylights**
- **Shingles up the rake of the roof for added wind protection**
- **In wind-blown dust/sand areas**

## ***How Done 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.*

## ***Where Can I Get More Information?***

**GAF Can Assist You...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF can be contacted at **800-ROOF-411** (800-766-3411). Also, 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](http://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](http://www.gaf.com) to make sure you have the most up to date information.