

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

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

**From:** Technical Services Department

**Subject:** *Keeping Your New Shingle On The Straight And Narrow*

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## What Is The Concern?

**Striking a chalk line...** helps in keeping your shingles aligned both horizontally and vertically.

- Over long distances or large areas.
- Doing so will virtually eliminate waviness, short exposures and other aesthetic issues.

## How Can It Affect My Roof?

**Start by...** installing GAF Shinglemate®, Roof Pro™, Deck Armor™, or TigerPaw™ underlayment from the eave to the ridge, horizontally.

**If you are...** installing in northern climates and require an ice and water shield.

- Start by installing WeatherWatch® or StormGuard® Leak Barrier along the eave first and then the remaining underlayment.

**For a horizontal line...** chalk a line every other course.

- Remember to always allow for a 1/4" - 3/4" (6 mm – 19 mm) overhang.
- Mark at least 3 locations, (left, right and center) as a check against measurement errors.
- Larger roofs or roofs that have a lot of penetrations may require more than one location to be marked.
- After the line is snapped, check to see that it is straight. If so, continue, if not, start over.
- For more experienced installers, every four to six courses should be sufficient.

**For a vertical line...**

- Mark 6' (1.8 m) or 9' (2.7 m), remembering to allow for a 1/4" - 3/4" (6 mm – 19 mm) overhang, from the rake edge
- Mark at least 3 locations, (top, bottom and middle) as a check against measurement errors.
- **For specific instructions...** please refer to the application instructions printed on the inside of the bundle wrapper.

## What Should You Do?

**The first course...** is the most critical.

- Be sure it is installed perfectly straight.
- Check it several times against the chalk line.
- Measure from the bottom of the shingle(s) to the line.
- The distance should be the same.
- Do not measure or align the top of the shingle to the line, as some variation in shingle width in manufacturing may occur.

**For vertical lines...** install several courses and measure to that.

- Using the stair step method and English 3 tab shingles, if you marked and started 6' (1.8 m) from the eave with a 1/4" - 3/4" (6 mm – 19 mm) overhang, the sixth shingle should measure 3' (914 mm) from the line and 3' (914 mm) [plus the overhang] from the rake.

## 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.