



We  
protect  
what  
matters  
most™

**To:** GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE  
**From:** Technical Services  
**No:** TAB-R-145

## ***Roofing Over Existing Shingles***

*Can GAF Shingles  
Be Installed Over  
Existing Shingles?*

**Yes.** GAF shingles can be installed over existing strip shingles, T-lock shingles, wood shingles, laminated shingles, and other asphalt premium shingles.

*What Is Required  
To Roof Over  
Existing Shingles?*

**There are a few things that must be followed for a successful installation over an existing roof...**

- **First, there should only be one existing roof in place.** Most local codes do not allow roofing over more than one roof for a total of two roofs in place on a residence. If there is more than one roof in place, a complete tear-off is necessary.
- **The existing roof should provide a smooth surface.**
  - Remove all loose or protruding nails or fasteners
  - Nail down any loose, curled, or lifted asphalt shingles
  - Split badly curled and/or warped wood shingles and re-nail the individual pieces
  - Replace any missing shingles

*When Should A  
Complete Tear-Off  
Occur?*

**The existing roof should be torn off when...**

- **There is more than one existing roof in place...** a tear-off may be necessary as required by local codes.
- **The surface of the old shingles is warped, curled, or so badly weathered...** to the point where providing a level surface for the new material will be difficult.
- **There are any concerns about deterioration to the deck itself...** if the roof is being re-roofed due to extensive leakage, removing the existing roofing materials will allow for inspection of the underlying deck. If the deck is deteriorated, it should also be replaced.

*Shingles Should  
Not Be Installed  
Over...*

**GAF asphalt shingles should not be installed over:**

- Wood shakes
- Tile roofs
- Metal roof
- Asbestos shingles
- Roll roofing
- Low slope membrane roofs
- Insulation (direct application)
- Decks other than wood unless an approved specialty deck

**Note: This is not an exhaustive list.** For installation over any substrate other than a wood deck or an existing shingle product as described above, please contact GAF for requirements and/or acceptability.

### *Questions?*

**GAF Technical Services Can Assist You...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. Technical Support Services can be contacted at 800-766-3411. 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.