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# Technical Advisory Bulletin

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE  
From: Technical Services  
No: TAB-R-129

## *Shingle Color Code Explained*

### *What are Color Codes And Why Are They Used*

**Color code...** are used by manufacturers to keep track of production runs and color information.

- Color names are consistent from plant to plant and each plant has an internally controlled list of unique **codes that define the color** of specific shingles.
- As long as all bundles for a job have the same color code printed on the ends of the bundles, the shingles should have a consistent appearance.
- All bundles for a job must have the same color code. Shingles are only mixable if they have the same color code.
- Temporary asphaltic oil staining can occur during storage. It is always good practice to install bundles with date codes **as close together as possible** to reduce the possibility of oil staining. Refer to Technical Advisory Bulletin TAB-R-166 for further information on asphaltic oil staining.

**Do Not Mix...** will occasionally be printed on a bundle and typically indicates there has been a change in the product color.

### *Where Are Color Codes Located And What Do They Mean?*

**One end of the bundle is printed with the:**

Color Name	Color Code	
Date Code	Time	Pkg. Line

**Examples:**

CHARCOAL	DA180B
07-25-2020	13:11 B

BARKWOOD	TU070A
11-14-2019	14:19 B

**The other end is printed with only:**

Color Name	Color Code
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**Examples:**

CHARCOAL	MC180A
WEATHERED WOOD	FO900B
WEATHERED WOOD	MC900H

*Where Are Color Codes Located And What Do They Mean? (Cont.)*

Color codes include a plant code, color code, and version letter. Only bundles with the same color code (plant, color code, and version) are considered mixable. Shingles with different color codes should not be mixed, as an appearance (shading) issue will likely result.

*Need More Information On Shading?*

Please see Technical Advisory Bulletin **TAB-R-137**, "Visual Issues with Shingled Roofs."

*Will Mixing Color Codes Void My Warranty?*

**No, the GAF Limited Warranty for the shingles will remain in effect.** However, any visual inconsistency or shading issues are excluded from GAF's responsibility under the terms of our Limited Warranty.

*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.