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Technical Advisory Bulletin

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, CARE
From: Residential Consumer Services
No: TAB-R-143
Date: 09/10/2025

Damage To Shingles Caused By Wind Events

What Type Of Damage Can Occur?

Damage caused by wind events, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and microbursts can take several forms which may include: blown off shingles; broken sealant bonds resulting in uplifted or creased tabs or full shingles; and granule loss and punctures caused by the impact of flying debris.

How Can I Tell If The Roof Was Damaged?

Generally, damage from a wind event is apparent, however, some damage can harm the surface of the shingle and lead to deterioration of the shingles months or years later. This is commonly referred to as latent damage.

Specific Damage To Be Aware Of

Granule Loss: Exposure to high wind events may result in granule loss. High winds can loosen granules, potentially separating them from the shingle's underlying asphalt layer. The extent of such damage may depend on a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- Age of the product
- Force and duration of winds and wind-driven rain
- Exposure to impact by wind borne debris
- Orientation and slope of the roof deck in relation to the wind direction

Broken Sealant Bonds: Wind events can break the sealant bond which seals the shingles together. When sealant bonds are broken, it is unlikely the shingles will re-seal on their own, and will require hand-sealing. The ability of the shingle sealant bond to re-seal on its own, and the subsequent strength, is influenced by a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- Age of the product
- Exposure to sun and higher ambient temperatures
- Additional exposure to wind post-repair
- Stress and strain on the shingles from exposure to sustained high winds
- Contamination of the sealant by dirt, debris, or other foreign substances
- Ability for shingles to lay flat

If sealant bonds have been broken due to exposure to wind and have sustained no other damage, GAF recommends hand-sealing the shingles. Hand-sealing will help to ensure adequate sealing of the shingles. Refer to [TAB-R-114 Hand-Sealing Shingles](#) for additional information.

*Warranty
Coverage?*

All of GAF's limited warranties offer Wind Warranty coverage, the length and specific terms of which will depend on the type of Limited Warranty you have, and the combination of products installed on your roof. GAF's Wind Warranties provide coverage against blown off or wind damaged shingles if the blow offs or wind damage occur within the Wind Warranty term, and are caused by winds under the Maximum Wind Speed limitation specified in the Limited Warranty (if applicable). Refer to the applicable limited warranty for complete coverage and restrictions. Blow-offs caused by winds in excess of the Maximum Wind Speed prescribed in the Limited Warranty, and other types of shingle failure (either immediate or the result of latent damage), are beyond the scope of coverage provided by GAF Limited Warranties. Damage resulting from causes beyond normal wear and tear, such as impact damage caused by flying debris that may accompany storms, are not covered.

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 or TechnicalQuestions@gaf.com. 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.