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what  
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# Technical Advisory Bulletin

**To:** GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE  
**From:** Technical Services  
**No:** TAB-R-149

## *California Valleys-Open*

### *Why Is Proper Valley Flashing So Important?*

**Proper valley and valley flashing techniques is one of the most important installation aspects of a new roof.** When installed correctly, the valley flashings provide a weather-tight seal against the elements. Poorly constructed/installed valleys may cause roof leaks and are very difficult to repair. Proper valley construction and installation is very important for proper roof drainage.

### *Where Can An Open California Valley Be Used?*

For installations using **Timberline® Series Shingles:**

- **Open California Valleys** are acceptable on slopes of **4:12 or greater**, unless prohibited by local codes.
- **Open California Valleys should not be** used for Weather Stopper® Golden Pledge® or Silver Pledge® installations.

For installations using **all other GAF shingles:**

- **GAF does not recommend the use of the California Valleys** or any valley that does not follow the guidelines as established by ARMA or the NRCA.
- **Leaks may occur** if California Valleys are installed with the wrong shingles

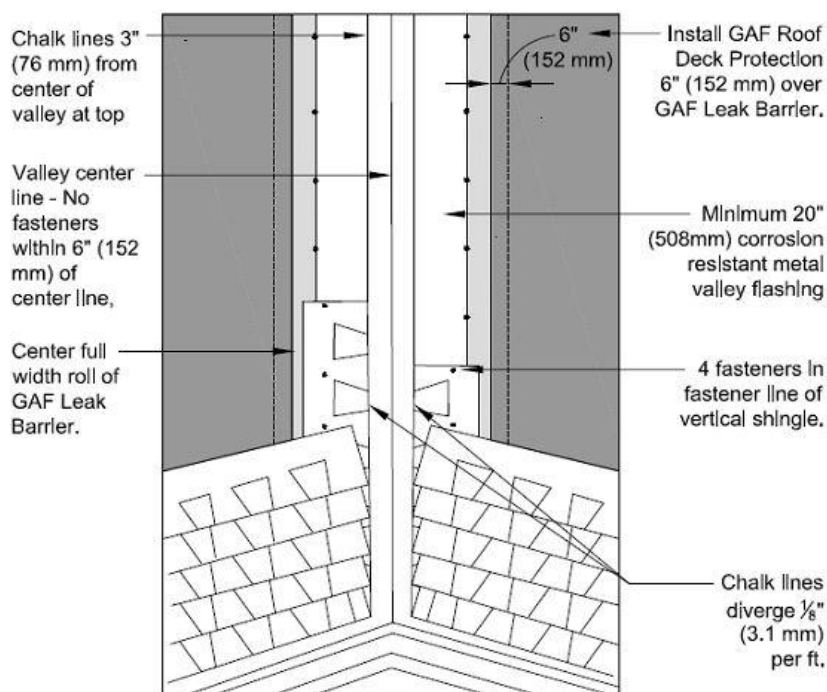
### *How Is An Open California Valley Constructed?*

1. **Install WeatherWatch® or StormGuard®** over the entire valley length and then install Roof Deck Protection with a minimum 6" (152 mm) overlap into the valley.
2. Center valley **metal (aluminum, galvanized steel, or copper, 24-gauge minimum thickness)** in the valley and nail the metal on the edges... place nails so nailheads hold the metal but do not puncture the metal. Metal must be a minimum of 20" (508 mm) wide and wide enough so that the vertical shingles installed at the eave edge overlap the metal by at least 4" (102 mm). (See step #3)
3. **Snap a chalk line 3" (76 mm) back from the valley centerline at the top and widening 1/8:12 to the eave edge on each side of the valley centerline.**
4. **Install one row of shingles, end-to-end,** with the butt edge towards the valley, along each chalk line (see Fig.1).
5. **Fasten the two rows of shingles in the valley** with 4 nails per shingle along the nail line.
6. **To complete the valley, start from the valley and work towards each rake edge.** Position each shingle starting a course with the tip of the shingle at the butt edge of the vertically installed shingle. Fasten shingles as usual with the exception of staying 6" (152 mm) away from the valley centerline. Start the first course with a full length shingle; the second course with enough trimmed off of the shingle to

*How Is An Open  
California Valley  
Constructed?  
(Cont'd)*

maintain a 6" (152 mm) offset from the first course; the third course trimmed to maintain a 5" (127 mm) offset from the second course; the fourth course trimmed to maintain a 6" (152 mm) offset from the third course; and the fifth course should start the pattern over again with a full shingle.

**Note:** Vertical shingles that have sealant on the top surface in the headlap must be hand sealed along the bottom butt edge in the valley.



**Figure 1: California Open Valley**

*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.