

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN



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Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

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

From: Technical Services Department

**Subject: Damage To Shingles Caused By Hail**

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## **Is Damage Immediately Noticeable?**

**Not always...** hail impact may cause a gradual loss of granules that can, over time, result in premature aging of the shingles.

**Without visual damage**, there is no real way to be sure how much damage shingles have encountered. Outward damage may not be apparent until months or years later.

## **How Can I Tell If The Roof Was Damaged?**

**Generally, damage can be seen as indentations and/or fractures in the shingles surface.** Hailstones vary in size, shape, and hardness and can create a random pattern of dents or depressions. If this is not evident, look for indentations on metal flashings, siding, chimney caps, or even skylight flashings. After some time, clusters of granules may come off (at the point of impact) in a random pattern and expose the asphalt.

## **What Are The Possible Types Of Damage?**

- **Granule loss at points of impact**, which may be accompanied by surface depression.
- **Cracks in the surfacing**, which may radiate outward from points of impact.
- **Exposed fiberglass mat**, where the granule-asphalt surfacing has been shattered and has broken away from the mat.
- **A fractured fiberglass mat**, which may or may not be immediately visible. A fractured mat may result in tears radiating out from the points of impact. Furthermore, hidden damage to the mat can manifest and develop into cracks and tears at a later point in time as the shingles wear.
- **Storm damage** may result in the loosening of the self-seal strip. This damage may be immediately visible or may weaken the seal integrity, creating the possibility of future shingle blow off.

## **Warranty Coverage?**

**Shingle blow-offs or broken sealant bonds caused by winds greater than the wind warranty coverage of the shingle is excluded from the GAF Shingle Limited Warranty. Note: Warranty coverage for shingle blow-offs or broken sealant bonds lasts from 5 to 15 years depending on the type of shingle.**

- Other types of damage caused by storms, such as granule loss or that caused by flying debris or hail, are not covered. Granule loss and impact damage may be immediately visible or can be latent, causing the shingles to deteriorate prematurely.

## **Where Can I Get More Information?**

**GAF Technical Services Can Assist You...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF Technical Services 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.