

TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

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

From: Technical Services Department

Subject: Field Coating Of Installed GAF Asphalt Roofing



Quality You Can Trust...
From North America's
Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

Issued Date: 05/06/2011

Revised Date: 08/26/2016

No: TAB-R-2011-151

Can Coatings Be Applied To Installed Asphalt Shingles?

Not Recommended... GAF does not recommend field application of coatings to asphalt roofing shingles and cautions that this type of application can have adverse effects on asphalt shingles.
Not Tested... There are many types and formulations of roof coatings being marketed. GAF has not evaluated these for use on asphalt roofing shingles and cannot accept any responsibility or liability for their use.
Before Coating An Asphalt Shingle, Use Caution... Thoroughly investigate all aspects of this type of application before applying a field coating to asphalt roofing shingles. Consult a qualified design professional to assess potential roof system performance issues, such as ventilation or permeability.

Why Would You Field Coat An Asphalt Roofing Shingle?

Coating Manufacturers' Claims Include:

- **Longer Roof Life...** Life of a weathered shingle roof can be extended by coating the roof.
- **Energy Savings...** Reflective coatings can reduce roof temperatures that reduces air conditioning load.
- **Repair of Small Leaks...** Small leaks can be repaired by coating the roof.

These Claims Are Unsubstantiated by GAF... GAF has not evaluated or substantiated these claims.

What Are Some Of The Problems Associated With Field Coating Asphalt Shingles?

Aesthetics... Coatings will drastically change the appearance of the roof.
Fire Rating... GAF fiberglass asphalt shingles are UL Class A listed for fire resistance. If a coating that is not UL listed is applied to a roof, the roof will no longer be UL Class A listed.
Shingle Performance... Some coatings have been reported to cause asphalt shingles to curl, cup, crack, split or blister that can result in premature failure and leaks.
Compatibility... Some coatings can soften the asphalt in shingles and cause it to slide or drip down the roof.
Moisture Entrapment... Depending on the coating, it can act as a vapor retarder and interfere with moisture vapor flow through the roof system. This can trap moisture in the roof assembly or attic space resulting in deck rot and/or mold growth.
Code Compliance... Some local building codes and homeowners' associations do not approve of coating installed asphalt roofing shingles. Check with local building departments or other authorities having jurisdiction in your community before coating your roof.

Is My Warranty Affected If I Field Apply A Coating To My GAF Asphalt Roofing Shingle?

No, the GAF Limited Warranty for the shingles will remain in effect. However, any damage, such as but not limited to curling, cracking, splitting, or blistering that results from the application of the coating is the responsibility of the owner and is excluded from GAF's responsibility under the terms of our Limited Warranty.

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 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.