

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

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

From: Technical Services Department

**Subject: Proper Shingle Storage**



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## ***Is Improper Shingle Storage Important?***

**YES. Proper shingle storage is essential for a quality roof.** If shingles are not stored properly, you may end up with a product that is not aesthetically pleasing after it is installed or may require replacement sooner than would normally occur.

### **Some of the common effects of improperly stored shingles include...**

- Staining, which can be caused by the lighter oils being released from the shingles
- Bundle distortion, which is usually caused by improper stacking
- Sticking, which is caused by excessive heat and pressure

## ***Do Shingles Have A Shelf Life?***

**Theoretically, there is no shelf life on shingle products in the bundle.**

- However, there may be a tendency for an asphalt shingle to stiffen if stored for more than one year. Should a shingle be used after one year's storage, care should be taken while handling as the shingle may have stiffened over time. Assuming all precautions are taken, properly stored shingles should perform adequately.

## ***What Are Some Suggestions To Properly Store Shingles?***

- **As a general rule, store shingles in a cool dry place...** in stacks no more than four feet high. If higher stacking is necessary, it is recommended that racks or bins be used to prevent the weight of the bundles on the upper pallets from bearing down on the bundles below. Slip-sheets a minimum of 3/8" (9.5 mm) plywood are also acceptable. Never stack pallets more than two high.
- **Systematically rotate all stock...** so that the material that has been stored the longest will be the first to be moved out (i.e., first in, first out).
- **Arrange the stock...** so that there is ample space for forklifts and other handling equipment to operate without bumping into and damaging materials in the stacks.
- **Do not store asphalt-roofing materials outdoors...** for extended periods of time. If it must be done, place the materials on a raised platform or pallets so they are not in contact with the ground. In addition, cover the roofing materials with a light colored, vented plastic sheet or breathable plastic.
- **Use tarpaulins to protect them from rain or snow.** Ventilate the protective covering to allow air to circulate. Do not store the shingles in the hot sun.

## ***If Defective Or Damaged Shingles Are Found...***

In the unlikely event that noticeably defective or damaged material reaches the job site, or damage to the material occurs from improper storage on the job site, it is the responsibility of the roofing contractor not to install this material. Notify GAF immediately about material that appears damaged or defective so that GAF may promptly evaluate the claim. Installation of damaged or defective material can result in additional costs above the cost of supplying replacement material. GAF is not responsible for these added costs.

***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.