

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

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

From: Technical Services Department

Subject: Installation Of Solar PV Panels Over A GAF Shingle Roof



Issued Date: 05/27/2011  
Revised Date: 05/01/17

No: TAB-R-2011-131

## Can I Install Solar Panels Over My GAF Roof?

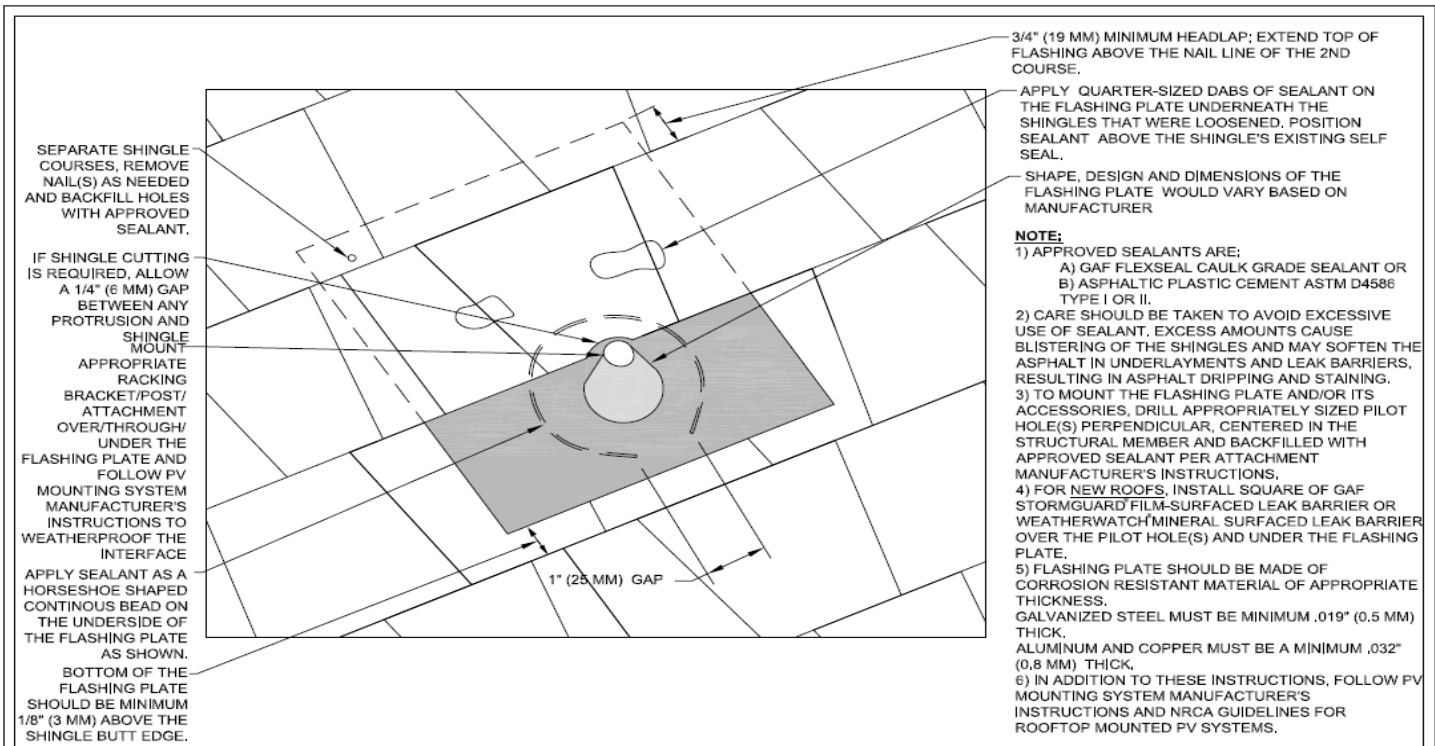
Yes... Solar or PV (photovoltaic) panels may be installed over GAF shingle roofs. However, GAF recommends that the shingles over which PV panels will be installed be less than 5 years old for optimal longevity, as most PV arrays can last 20 or more years.

## What Types Of PV Systems Can Be Installed On A GAF Roof?

Generally speaking... Each PV manufacturer and/or installing company has their own preferred or proprietary method of attaching the PV system to the roof. Based on the types of PV mounting methods on shingled steep slopes, PV systems can be categorized into 3 types.

- 1) Rail-Based Mounting System
- 2) Rail-less Mounting System
- 3) Roof Integrated PV System

Some PV mounting systems can be mechanically attached directly to the roof deck, while others must be mechanically attached to the rafters. However, all PV systems installed on GAF roofs must conform to state and local building codes, and must be installed according to (i) the PV mounting system manufacturer's guidelines, (ii) NRCA Guidelines for Rooftop-mounted Photovoltaic Systems, and (iii) GAF's Generic PV Mounting System Detail Number **PV-R-06**.



<p>www.gaf.com</p> <p>ISSUE/ REVISION DATE</p> <p>03-10-17</p>	<p><b>GENERIC PV MOUNTING SYSTEM - ROOF PENETRATION FLASHING DETAIL</b></p> <p>APPLICATION INSTRUCTION DETAIL (DRAWINGS NOT TO SCALE)</p>	<p>BRAND/SERIES</p> <p><b>ALL SHINGLES</b></p> <p>DETAIL NUMBER</p> <p><b>PV-R-06</b></p>

***Does GAF Have Any Other Recommendations For PV Systems?***

- 1) **PV Mounting Systems...** The PV mounting system should be designed so that external forces (wind, snow, thermal expansion, seismic forces, etc.) acting on the system do not compromise the roof's water shedding integrity.
- 2) **Setbacks...** Follow setback requirements by the local AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) and fire department. Even if the AHJ does not require setbacks, they are still part of a good design. Setbacks provide adequate room for safe installation, troubleshooting and maintenance.
- 3) **Roof Obstructions...** Avoid obstructions such as, but not limited to, skylights and vent pipes.
- 4) **Ice Damming Areas...** PV systems should not be installed in areas of the roof susceptible to ice damming.
- 5) **SIPS Panels...** Consult with a decking design professional before installing PV over SIPS Panels.

***Does Installing Solar Panels Affect My Limited Warranty?***

**No...** Solar panels will not impact coverage under the GAF's limited warranties. However, should there ever be an issue with the shingles, no matter the cause, it is the owner's responsibility to have the solar panels removed at the owner's sole expense so that GAF can access the affected shingles for inspection, repair or replacement.

***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.