

TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN



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From North America's
Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

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

From: Technical Services Department

Date: 05/27/2011

Subject: Replacement Of Storm Damaged Shingles

No: TAB-R 2011-126

What Are Some Causes For "Storm Damage" To Shingles?

Damage to shingles caused by extraordinary weather conditions such as hurricanes, hail, tornadoes, lightning, winds higher than warranted, or cold-weather related damages such as ice-damming.

Does The GAF Shingle Limited Warranty Cover This Type Of Damage?

Extraordinary weather related damages as described above are specifically excluded from coverage*. This damage may be immediately noticeable, or can be latent damage in which case evidence of any damage may not be immediately apparent. This latent damage caused by severe weather or flying debris may cause the shingles to deteriorate prematurely.

*Some GAF shingles are warranted to withstand winds up to 130 mph following when using GAF WeatherBlocker™ or Pro-Start™ starter strips and 6 (or more) nails.

What Are Some Examples Of Latent Damage That I Could Expect To See?

Latent damage may take on many forms such as:

- Granule loss at points of impact of debris or caused by stresses the shingles endure
- Cracks in the granule-asphalt surfacing – especially if high winds blew the shingles back
- Exposed fiberglass mat – which may or may not be immediately visible
- Loosening of the self-seal integrity creating the potential for future shingle blow-off

What If I have Granule Loss Concerns?

Loss of mineral granules as an immediate or gradual consequence of storm damage exposes the asphalt coating directly to the environment. This granule loss may result in the accelerated aging and the premature deterioration of the shingles.

Any shingle failures caused by storm damage, immediate or as a result of latent damage, is beyond the scope of the GAF Shingle Limited Warranty, and is not be the responsibility of GAF.

Note: Granule loss is NOT just cosmetic damage and "sugaring," the process of adding loose granules to damaged shingle with asphalt cement, is not a permanent repair.

Is There Anything Else To Be Aware Of?

"Blue Tarpred Roofs": As immediately effective as tarping a damaged roof is to protect the building, securing the tarp by nailing through the shingles damages the shingles. Shingles that were nailed through must be replaced; caulking these nail holes is not a permanent repair and creates a maintenance item that is not a "material defect" covered by a manufacturer's warranty.

Can Several Individual Shingles Be Replaced Or Should The Entire Roof Be Replaced?

While individual damaged shingles on a roof can be replaced, it generally is not recommended if there are more than 2 or 3 damaged shingles on a roof or a plane (section) of the roof because the process of replacing individual shingles requires breaking the self-seal of the surrounding shingles, removing their nails, and bending them to remove the damaged shingles and then re-fastening them ... all of which can damage the shingles if not done properly. In addition, the color of new shingles inserted will not match the color of the shingles that have weathered for even a few years.

For long term performance as well as aesthetic reasons, complete replacement is recommended for roofs that have a significant number of shingles that need to be replaced due to storm damage. An additional benefit to complete replacement is the ability of the roofing professional to check for latent damage – something that is difficult to do if just a few shingles are replaced. If the damage is confined to one plane of the roof, replacement of the just the damaged roof plane may be possible.

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.