

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

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

**From:** Technical Services Department

**Subject:** *Re-Use of Metal Flashings On Asphalt Shingle Roofs*

**Issued Date:** 12/22/2017  
**Revised Date:** 01/15/2019

**No:** TAB-R-2017-170

## **What Are Metal Flashings?**

Metal flashings, such as drip edge, rake edge, valley, step, base and counter-flashing, are critical components of an asphalt shingle roofing system.

These components are typically installed at roof terminations, junctions and penetrations to provide protection against leaks. All flashings are designed and installed to divert water down the roof plane(s) into gutters, downspouts and away from the structure to help prevent moisture infiltration.

## **Can Metal Flashings Be Reused When Reroofing?**

**Yes, in some cases,** however GAF recommends that all metal flashings be replaced whenever possible.

When reusing existing metal flashing, identify any potential issues that may affect the integrity of the new asphalt roof shingle system.

- Flashing metal should be inspected by qualified personnel to determine if its anticipated service life will correspond to the anticipated service life of the new asphalt shingles. Existing drip edge, vent flashings, step and counter-flashings may be reused **when they are in “like new” condition**, meaning that they do not show signs of excessive wear, damage or deterioration (for example, corrosion, rust, scoring, tearing or any physical damage from the roof tear-off).
- Removal of all metal flashing allows the roofing professional to fully inspect the roof deck and identify problem areas that should be addressed during reroofing.
- The new shingles may not be the same size as the old shingles. It is critical that flashing sizes correspond with the size required by the new shingle product.
- Step flashing length must correspond to the design and size of the new asphalt shingles. If the new shingles require a different size flashing, then the existing flashing must be replaced regardless of its condition.
- Metal flashing may become damaged during removal or when the overlaying or underlying asphalt shingles are removed.
- Existing plastic flashing is not acceptable and must be replaced with non-corroding metal flashing.

## **Will Reusing Existing Metal Flashings Void My Shingle Limited Warranty?**

**No...** The GAF Shingle & Accessory Limited Warranty will remain in effect per its terms and conditions even if existing materials are re-used. However, any damage due to reusing existing flashings is not covered under the terms and conditions of the limited warranty. The GAF Shingle & Accessory Limited Warranty covers manufacturing defects only; it does not cover the workmanship of the roofer who installs the shingles, the design of the roof, or the installation/performance of the roof deck. GAF can assume no responsibility that the installation conforms to local code requirements. Advance approval to reuse metal flashing is required if enhanced warranty coverage is sought. GAF makes no representation or warranty that the installation conforms to local code requirements and assumes no responsibility for code compliance.

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

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