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**To:** GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, Field Services, AIS, CARE  
**From:** Technical Services  
**No:** TAB-R-147

## ***Re-Roofing and Self-Adhered Leak Barriers***

### ***What Is The Concern?***

Self-adhering leak barriers are generally used on the eave, rake, valley and around roof penetrations on new and re-roof applications. The balance of the roof is covered with a layer of non-perforated, typically breathable (moisture vapor permeable) roof deck protection.

**On re-roofing applications...** it can be difficult to remove the existing self-adhered leak barrier.

### ***Should I Remove the Existing Self-Adhered Leak Barrier When Re-Roofing?***

**GAF strongly recommends** removal of the existing self-adhered leak barrier when re-roofing. Removing the existing self-adhered leak barrier will:

- Allow the deck to be examined for deterioration and damage,
- Minimize any unevenness that could result from leaving existing self-adhered leak barrier in place,
- Prevent issues of incompatibility among leak barriers.

### ***What If The Existing Leak Barrier Cannot Be Completely Removed?***

If removal of the existing material cannot be accomplished without damaging the deck, then the roofing contractor may choose to either:

- Replace the deck, or
- Attempt to “feather in” the new layer by extending the material a minimum of 8” (203 mm) past the existing material.

**Note:** Where the existing leak barrier was installed over the entire field of the deck, the above options may not be feasible. **No more than two layers** of leak barrier may be in place in order for the roof to qualify for a Weather Stopper® Silver Pledge®, Golden Pledge®, or a Peace of Mind™ Limited Warranty.

### ***Material Compatibility...***

**Not all building materials are designed to be in contact with each other.** Softening, flowing and dripping of the asphalt compound may result from incompatible leak barriers, which can cause staining to the fascia, gutters and building exterior. GAF is not responsible for any damage caused by incompatibility with any leak barrier not manufactured by GAF. See Technical Advisory Bulletin No. **TAB-R-157** available at [www.gaf.com](http://www.gaf.com) for more information on compatibility.

## *Questions?*

**GAF Technical Services Can Assist You...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. Technical Support Services can be contacted at 800-766-3411. 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.