

Racking Shingles

Steep Slope Technical Point

Updated: 10/07



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From North America's Largest Roofing Manufacturer™*



Steep Slope Technical Point

TO: Steep Slope Sales Team,
GAF-Elk Contractors, GAF-Elk
Distributors.

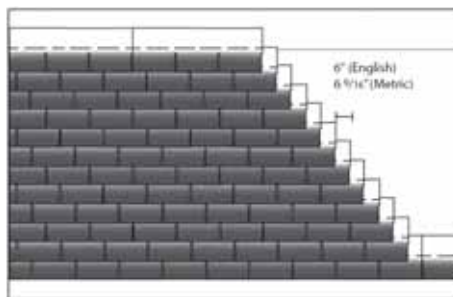
FROM: Contractor Services

DATE: 10/1/07

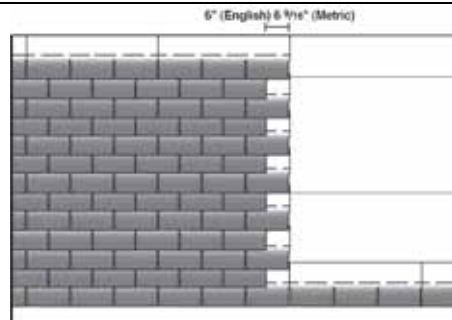
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SUBJECT: *Racking Shingles*

<p><i>What Is Racking Shingles?</i></p>	<p>Racking... is when shingles are installed straight up the roof rather than being installed using the traditional stair step method.</p>
<p><i>Does GAF-Elk Approve Of The Racking Method?</i></p>	<p>Three Tab Shingles... Acceptable, but it is not the preferred method of installation because of the possible installation problems and damage if proper precautions are not followed.</p> <p>All other shingles (laminated or designer shingles)... Never. The application method and specific offsets shown in the application instructions for each type of shingle must be followed to achieve the best appearance and avoid damage to the shingles from over-bending these heavy shingles during application.</p>
<p><i>Possible Types Of Installation Problems And Damage:</i></p>	<p>Improper Nailing... often results when shingles are racked due to the last nail (the blind nail) of every other course of shingles being left out to allow the insertion of the next shingle. Shingles left un-nailed at the first pass can mistakenly be left un-nailed when the next shingle is installed. Missing nails will result in reduced wind resistance of the roof.</p> <p>Stress Cracks... can be caused when the shingles are bent to install the "blind nail." These stress cracks may not be immediately visible but can result in premature failure of the shingle.</p> <p>Incorrect Color Blends... may be caused when installing shingles straight up the roof creating up and down color lines on a roof, or color "shading."</p>
<p><i>If You Do Rack Three Tab Shingles...</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Proper and Adequate Nailing... making certain the correct number of nails are installed in each shingle. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High nailing or leaving nails out can leave unattractive patterns as well as reduce wind resistance of the shingles. • Keep a Close Eye on the Color Blend... to be sure that racking lines are not apparent. During installation, rack only single columns of shingles (no double columns) and mix shingles from 2 or 3 bundles to minimize unattractive color patterning. • Beware of Over-Bending Shingles... when installing the "blind nail" to prevent cracking damage to the shingles that may not be immediately visible and can result in premature shingle failure. The lower the ambient temperature, the greater the chance that bending the shingle to install the "blind nail" will cause damage to the shingles.
<p><i>Will It Void My Warranty?</i></p>	<p>No. The GAF-Elk Shingle Limited Warranty against manufacturing defects remains in effect whether the shingles are installed either in the traditional stair step method or alternate racking method.</p>
<p><i>Where Can I Get More Information?</i></p>	<p>GAF-Elk Technical Services can assist you... with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF-Elk Technical Services can be contacted at 800-ROOF-411 (800-766-3411). Also, <i>the GAF-Elk website is a great resource</i> for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. That site is at: www.gaf.com</p>



Traditional Stair Step Method



Racking Method