



“RACKED” INSTALLATION WITH STRIP (THREE-TAB) ASPHALT SHINGLES

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Issue Description:

The term “racking” refers to vertical application of asphalt shingles up the roof rather than across and diagonally up. This installation method is only applicable to strip (three-tab) asphalt shingles, not to laminate (architectural) shingle products.

Recommendations:

As a general rule, applying strip (three-tab) asphalt shingles using the stair step method (across and diagonally up the roof) provides the most desirable appearance. Owens Corning™ Roofing does not recommend installing asphalt shingle using racking method. However, we recognize this method as a common installation practice by roofing contractors.

1. When installing shingles by racking, part of the shingle is hidden and a fastener may be overlooked. Make sure each shingle is fastened properly using the required number of fasteners as stated in Owens Corning’s installation instructions. Owens Corning™ Roofing will not accept responsibility for any damage to the shingles that may occur due to improper fastening.
2. The racked installation method requires placement of a “blind nail” by lifting the edge of adjacent shingle. Ensure shingles are not over-bent when using the racking installation method, since this may cause shingles to crack. Owens Corning™ Roofing will not accept responsibility for any damage to the shingles that may occur from over bending during the installation.
3. Regardless of the installation method used, combine shingles from several different bundles to minimize shading, patterning and color variation. This will provide the most desirable appearance.

Even though installing strip (three-tab) asphalt shingles using the stair step method is a recommendation and not a requirement, individuals in the industry (architects, designers, and specifiers) may require the stair step method in project specifications. Installation requirements such as shingle off-sets can vary by product. Ensure you follow Owens Corning installation instructions.

Please contact 419-248-6557 for additional information. Email: gettech@owenscorning.com

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