



Rain Diverters

FORTIFIED Guidance—Rain Diverters

Technical Bulletin FH 2024-02

First Release:

March 19, 2024

Prepared by:

FORTIFIED Technical Team

Applicable Standards:

FORTIFIED Home™—Hurricane
FORTIFIED Home™—High Wind

Applicable Designation Level:



Introduction

To limit the water flowing off a roof and into a walkway, many homeowners have rain diverters installed. On asphalt shingle roofs, this flashing material is typically inserted between courses of the shingles. However, doing so breaks the manufacturer’s shingle seal, which makes this area of the roof more vulnerable to wind damage. Therefore, **the use of rain diverters is not recommended on FORTIFIED roofs.** Property owners are encouraged to redirect water in a way that does not damage shingle sealant.

If rain diverters are present on a new roof, this technical bulletin outlines the requirements that must be met to be eligible for a FORTIFIED Roof™ – New Roof designation. If these requirements cannot be met, the home will only be eligible for an Existing Roof designation.



Figure 1: Example of rain diverter installed on asphalt shingle roof.

Option 1: Removing Diverter and Resealing Shingles

The rain diverter must be removed, and all affected shingles must be repaired and resealed in compliance with manufacturer specifications. This repair should be documented in accordance with the Roof Repair Checklist.





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Option 2: Document Installation

To be eligible for a New Roof designation without removing the rain diverter, the roofing contractor must follow the roof cover manufacturer’s approved water diverter installation detail. The detail, including authorized approval of installation on asphalt shingle manufacturer’s letterhead, must be provided with the evaluation application along with photographic documentation of installation and all associated materials.

Compliance Verification Requirements

Option 1 – Rain diverter removed, and shingles repaired:

- [Roof Repair Checklist](#), completed and signed by the roofing contractor
- Four elevation photos; one from each face of the dwelling
- Four photos minimum showing location and scope of affected area
- If shingles are replaced, a photo of shingle packaging showing class and/or rating
- Photo of the package/container of sealing material used
- Photo of completed repair area

Option 2 – Rain diverter installed:

- Asphalt shingle roof cover manufacturer’s approved water diverter installation detail, including authorized approval of installation on asphalt shingle manufacturer’s letterhead.
- Photographic documentation of installation and all associated materials per the manufacturer’s approved detail.

Documentation, along with roof cover compliance form, must be submitted using FOCUS in the Roofing Compliance General Information form under Fully Installed Roof Cover Photos, or in the Eligibility Form under Other Documents.

Additional References

For additional guidance, refer to the following:

- [Documentation Requirements Evaluator Checklist](#)
- [FORTIFIED Legal Disclaimer](#)

