



No. 3

1992-09-01

Révision: 1997-04-01

## THE USE OF UNDERLAYMENT WITH ASPHALT SHINGLES

There are many reasons why the use of asphalt-saturated felt as an underlayment prior to applying asphalt shingles makes good roofing sense.

- Underlayment protects the wooden deck from moisture penetration until the shingles are applied, thus greatly reducing problems that can arise when shingles are installed on a wet surface.
- Many asphalt roofing manufacturers specify the use of asphalt-saturated felt over a wood roof deck to validate their warranties.
- Asphalt-saturated felt should be used beneath asphalt shingles reinforced with glass fibre felt, since this is a requirement for Class A fire resistance.
- Installing asphalt-saturated felt helps to minimize "picture framing", i.e. the visible outline of deck panels caused by irregularities in roof decking thicknesses.
- The water resistance of asphalt-saturated felt provides secondary protection by helping shield the deck from wind-driven rain.
- Asphalt-saturated felt also offers protection to the shingles from the resins that can be released by the wood board decking.
- The underlayment material should meet at least one of the following industry standards:
  - a. CSA 123.3-M - No. 15 / ASTM D226 Type 1 (No. 15 felt)
  - b. CAN 2-51.32 - Breather Type Sheathing Paper

The proper application techniques recommended by the manufacturers should be followed to ensure optimum performance of asphalt-saturated felt.

[\[return to listing\]](#)

***Canadian Asphalt Shingle Manufacturers' Association***