



GAP WaterGuard™ Synthetic Roof Underlayment Frequently Asked Questions

Q – Why do you have 3 brands and which one should I use?

A – We sell a “Good, Better, Best” family of products.

- GAP WaterGuard Premium (BEST) – used for all roofing applications, 40 year limited warranty, extended exposure (up to 6 months) and strong enough for a lot of roofing traffic (only available on special request, 300 roll min.)
- GAP WaterGuard All Purpose (BETTER) – used for virtually all applications, except for specialty roofing needing long term protection (like tile, slate and shake), 30 year limited warranty
- GAP RoofWrap (GOOD) – used for only shingles and shorter term exposure (up to 30 days), 10 year limited warranty

Q– Why should I use your synthetic underlayment instead of black felt paper?

A– There are “many” reasons why our GAP Roofing Inc. synthetic roofing products are used in place of black felt papers, below are just a few key attributes:

- All of our synthetic roofing underlayment’s fabrics are stronger than felts (GAP WaterGuard Premium is 20X stronger, GAP WaterGuard All Purpose is 18X stronger and GAP RoofWrap is 15X stronger than #30 felt)
- Felt paper must be covered shortly after applied, our GAP Roofing synthetic underlayment’s can be exposed much longer (GAP WaterGuard Premium = 12 months, GAP WaterGuard All Purpose = 6 months and 30 days for GAP RoofWrap)
- Our GAP Roofing synthetic underlayment’s are light weight and easy to handle, each roll is less than 35 lbs. and contains 10 squares per roll (1000 sf), handling 1/5 the amount of rolls as #30 felt
- All GAP Roofing Synthetic Underlayment’s have Limited Warranties (from 40 years to 10 years), protecting the property owner, GAP Roofing top felt products have a 10 year warranty (#15 & #30 ASTM 4869 and #15 & #30 ASTM D226), whereas no other felt manufacturer offers any warranty

Q – Where can I get your materials?

A – We sell our GAP WaterGuard Building/HouseWrap materials through 1-step and 2-step distribution as well as major lumber dealers.

Q– There seems to be many synthetic underlayment’s, why should I use yours?

A– Not all synthetic underlayment’s are made the same! Our products are made right here in North America (except our GAP RoofWrap), and designed by contractors for contractors. We control the quality, performance and support of these products locally and with North American standards, versus virtually all other brands that are produced in China, India, Korea and Viet Nam.

- We do NOT cut corners, giving up performance for price; safety is our #1 priority! So many brands have reduced or removed key attributes of their products to get a lower price (e.g., lower or no slip resistance (top side and /or bottom side), weaker material/stretching and tears, thermal protection, etc.)
- We manufacture, support and warranty our own products...we own the design, quality and process, no “middle man” to deal with



GAP WaterGuard
Complete Building Envelope Series



- We have our own field “technical” and “sales support” teams to work with contractors and distributors in the field, supporting our products
- We have the most unique, complete building envelope solution, known as the “GAP Advantage” with Saturated felts, roll roofing, self-adhering underlayment’s, matched synthetic roofing underlayment’s, breathable building wraps, high performance window and door flashings, and specialty building tapes, all available from one source and one delivery...increasing your turns and lowering your total exterior product investment...with more products to come!!!
- Our “selective” distribution allows for availability and value for our users and distributors
- As manufacturing “neighbors” we are here in North America, employing North American workers, paying North American taxes and supporting our North American communities

Q– Do I install your Synthetic Underlayment any differently than black felt paper?

A– You install it exactly the same way. We have a 48” wide synthetic underlayment rolls verses 36” wide black felt paper which means 9% fewer nails. With one or two less courses per roof, that means fewer areas for water to penetrate and it lays down much faster. Since you are using a 10 square roll, one roll lasts 5 times longer and 1/5 the number of rolls to carry up to the roof. Install with the printed side to the sky and only to be used as roofing underlayment.

Q– What type of fasteners should I use to fasten down your Synthetic Underlayment?

A– Our material, like any synthetic roofing underlayment material, should follow your local building codes and/or nationally approved roofing standards for fasteners, which are 5/8” head 1” roofing nails or plastic cap nails.

- Metal roofing should use a 5/8” head 1” roofing nail to avoid any “tin canning” of the metal roofing material
- Staples are not a preferred fastening solution for any synthetic roofing underlayment due to the “razor sharp” shank of the staple that will easily cut any synthetic material. In quick installation applications with light roof traffic under shingles, staples can be used if the underlayment is covered within 24 hours, if your local building code permits staples.

Q – Is your synthetic underlayment slippery with wet?

A – Any roofing underlayment can be slippery and dangerous when it is wet, dirty, covered with any type of debris, etc. Great care should be taken under less than desirable environmental conditions and safety equipment should always be worn. Some unique features of our GAP WaterGuard All Purpose include additional walkability benefits:

- GAP WaterGuard All Purpose utilizes a chemical slip resistance coating on the top surface to grip your rubber soled shoes. Additionally, GAP WaterGuard All Purpose is designed with an embossed pattern to grip your boot or rubber soled shoes as a secondary slip resistance, especially helping in moist or dusty conditions.
- The back-side of our synthetic underlayment’s also has slip resistant properties to help the underlayment grip the OSB on the roof deck. This is critically important to minimize the amount of material slip that occurs with foot traffic...without this property the material would feel unstable, slip easily on the roof and put undue tension on the fastening point.