



# technical bulletin

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## ***Asphalt Shingle Recycling Do's and Don'ts***

Asphalt shingle recycling is becoming very common as an alternative to sending materials to a landfill. Shingle recycling is the process of taking asphalt shingles from roof tear-offs and collecting them for reuse into another product, ensuring the material does not end up in a landfill. Roofing contractors should take care to understand the process and follow some “do’s and don’ts” to ensure that shingle recycling is an effective tool for improving their businesses.

Do	Don't
Find a recycler in your local area. Some resources include <a href="http://www.shinglerecycling.org">www.shinglerecycling.org</a> , <a href="http://www.earth911.com">www.earth911.com</a> , or 1-800-CLEANUP.	Assume there are no options for recycling in your market. Most major metro markets have recycling available.
Check the recycler's business background and ensure they are legitimately recycling shingles. Using the resources above will help you determine the legitimacy of a recycler.	Use a recycler that you cannot assure is legitimately recycling shingles.
Keep shingles clean of other debris like wood and metal or separate material within the load. Call your recycler before dropping off to determine the specific procedures at the site.	Bring mixed loads and expect to be able to recycle or to receive the standard recycling rate.
Leave nails within the shingles, as they will be pulled out with strong magnets during the recycling process.	Spend excess time pulling out nails during the roof tear-off.
Save money by recycling. Recycling is generally less expensive than using a landfill, can result in less travel time to and from the site, and typically has shorter lines than a landfill.	Assume recycling will cost you more money or time.
Tell your customers that you are recycling their used shingles.	Leave recycling out of the sales discussion.
Share your recycling success with customers. Many recyclers will report a percentage of materials recycled, including some who use green building standards for reporting, which you can pass on to homeowners or building owners.	Assume the homeowner or building owner is not interested in recycling practices and the percent of materials recycled.

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