



technical bulletin

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When Does a Shingle Comply with ASTM D3462?

Shingles that are in conformance with ASTM D3462 at the time of manufacture have a proven track record of performance, meeting and exceeding customer expectations.

Asphalt shingles made with fiberglass mat are complex composite products made by combining materials with significantly different properties. Shingles that are in conformance with ASTM D3462 at the time of manufacture have a proven track record of performance, meeting and exceeding customer expectations. From the time of production until installation on a roof, shingles are transported, handled, and stored under widely varying conditions of temperature, humidity, and light exposure. Shingle physical properties may change during this time period. Because changes may occur, the time period during which testing for D3462 compliance can be performed is constrained within the scope of the standard.

D3462 defines a window of time within which the standard can be applied. The time frame for evaluation is established primarily in the first section of the scope. Test methods contained within or referenced by D3462 may contain guidelines and constraints on timing in addition to the general time constraints established in the standard's scope.

The scope states that D3462 "is designed for the evaluation of products as manufactured." This precludes testing of shingles after some period of time has elapsed. But what is that period of time? Additional clarification is given in the statement, "test methods, physical requirements, and minimum masses are to be measured immediately after packaging..." This is the default, referee, or ruling guideline that establishes the intent of the standard with respect to the element of time. The standard should be applied to products as soon as possible after they are produced.

However, the standard's scope provides an opportunity for negotiation between the buyer and seller of shingles to extend the default time frame. It indicates that evaluation of product may take place "at a reasonable time, as agreed upon between buyer and seller, after manufacture and prior to installation." Testing for D3462 compliance during the time frame following manufacture, but prior to installation, requires an agreement between the buyer and seller of the shingles.

The time period after installation of the shingles is also addressed in the scope. It states that testing of product for D3462 compliance after application and during the service life of the shingles is beyond the scope of the standard.

Testing of shingles for D3462 compliance must be conducted with consideration of the issue of time. Although some shingle properties may change as time passes, shingles that comply with all the requirements of ASTM D3462 at the time of manufacture, as prescribed in the scope of the standard, have a proven track record of meeting customer expectations.

Note: Additional information pertaining to this document can be found in ARMA Technical Bulletin "Sampling Shingles for ASTM Testing".

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