



Excessive Gaps in Wood Decking

Technical Bulletin FH 2023-07

First Release:

April 17, 2023

Prepared by:

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Applicable Standards:

FORTIFIED Home™—Hurricane
FORTIFIED Home™ - High Wind

Applicable Designation Level:



FORTIFIED Home™ Requirements for Homes with Excessive Gaps Between Wood Decking Boards

Introduction

There are increasing requests for guidance from evaluators and contractors about existing wood board roof decking which has gaps that exceed 1/8 inch.

This technical bulletin provides guidance for asphalt shingle roofs that should be followed when these conditions are present to comply with the 2020 FORTIFIED Home™ Standard.

Installation Requirements

FORTIFIED standards, asphalt shingle manufacturers, and many municipalities require shingles to be installed over a *solidly sheathed* roof deck. The interpretation of “solidly sheathed” is not clearly defined in the code or consistently identified by shingle manufacturers. When available, the contractor should always follow the shingle manufacturer’s written guidance.

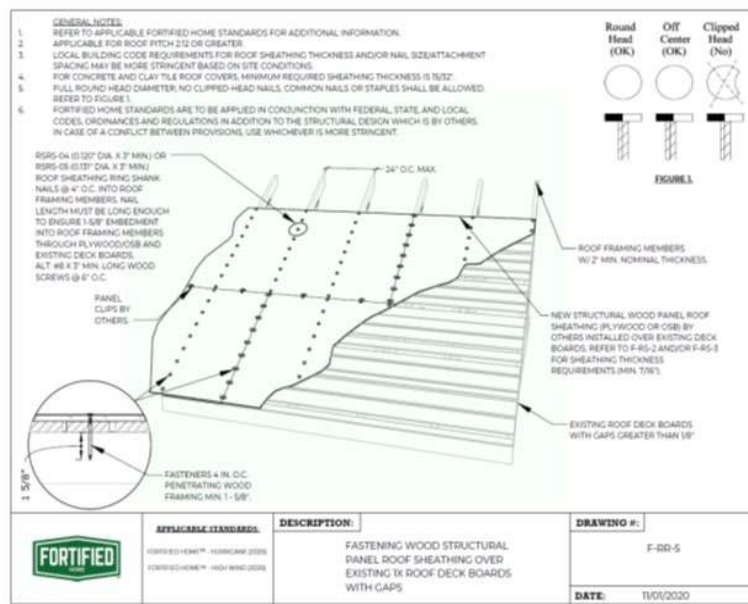


Figure 1: Standard Detail F-RR-5

In cases where the shingle manufacturer does not have specific guidance regarding acceptable wood board roof deck gap spacing, follow [FORTIFIED Standard Detail F-RR-5](#) which is an approved method to correct these conditions.





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Compliance Verification Requirements

Refer to the Documentation Requirements checklist and provide the required photos listed for roof deck attachment.

For non-shingle roof covers, if the roof cover manufacturer's guidance allows for gaps greater than 1/8 in., include their published guidance with the evaluation along with the roof deck attachment photos.

Additional References

For additional guidance, refer to the following:

- [FORTIFIED Home Documentation Requirements](#)
- [FORTIFIED Standard Detail F-RR-5](#)
- [FORTIFIED Legal Disclaimer](#)

