

IBHS Roofing Guidance: Seal the Roof Deck



CHOOSING THE RIGHT TAPE

One key component of the FORTIFIED™ program is having a sealed roof deck. Applying a tape to the joints in the roof deck, using one of the pressure sensitive adhesives described below, can significantly reduce the risk of leaks during storms with wind-driven rain. Learn the tape types that can be combined with qualified underlayments to seal your roof deck:

What are Pressure Sensitive Adhesives?*

Low- to no-solvent-based tapes that work best when applied with pressure to the substrate. Heat typically helps the adhesive strength. Adhesion may be decreased if applied in wet or cold environments. Use of a primer may be required when applying to substrates such as OSB.

*PSA, self-adhesive, self-stick



Modified Bitumen (Meets ASTM D1970)

- + Thicker, modified asphalt tape
- + Service temperature range of 35°F–150°F
- + Compatible with asphalt products
- + Inexpensive
- + May require primer

Product Manufacturers

- MFM Roof Deck Tape
- Tite Seal Roof Deck Seam Tape
- Protecto Wrap
- Protecto Flex



Butyl (Meets AAMA 711, Level 3)

- + Rubber core, adds flexibility/water resistance
- + Service temperature range of -4°F–200°F
- + Maintains tack at lower temperatures, but may take longer to initiate
- + Less likely to ooze at higher temperatures
- + Low to no volatile organic compounds (VOC)

Product Manufacturers

- Tite Seal Butyl Ultra
- Protecto Wrap BT25XL
- DuPont Tyvek FlexWrap
- Polyken 627-35



Acrylic (Meets AAMA 711, Level 3)

- + Uses acrylic adhesive to help create an airtight seal
- + Service temperature range of -4°F–200°F
- + Bonds to many substrates
- + UV and water resistant
- + No VOCs

Product Manufacturers

- Huber ZIP System
- 3M Scotch 8067
- Dow Weathermate
- Protecto Super Stick Building Tape



NOTE

Getting the roof right is an essential part of IBHS' FORTIFIED superior building standards program. To learn more about FORTIFIED Home™, please visit www.fortifiedhome.org.

Tapes that meet this criteria include, but are not limited to, the products listed above. Product availability may change.

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