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Roof Felt Information and Maintenance Guide

There are lots of environmental factors which can affect the lifespan of roofing felt. Our buildings are supplied with either standard green mineral felt, or premium polyester charcoal mineral felt depending on your chosen product.

Over the past decade, weather has proven to be the largest source of damage to roofing products.
Even though roofing materials are engineered to take a perennial beating from various elements like snow, wind, sun and rain, environmental conditions consistently test the roof materials integrity. Consequently, the roofs lifespan is directly relative to its ability to endure the effects of the harsh elements. If you experience a roof failure, one or more of these natural culprits could be behind the issue.

Wind
The innovative design of premium roofing felt, and its placement has been improved to resist the average wind-load for different regions. Nevertheless, in situations where the wind gets too extreme the felt becomes vulnerable and weakens. It should be noted that the effect of wind moving over the felt is never uniform because certain regions are more predisposed to higher wind pressure than others. This means that areas with extreme wind may need a felt repair or replacement sooner than other regions.

Sunlight Exposure
It is a well- known fact that the sun produces certain radiations such as UV light, infrared light, and more. The longevity of felt is determined by the intensity of these radiations and how often they get exposed to these unfriendly rays.
When felt is exposed to a higher degree of sunlight, its effectiveness begins to decline. This is because the heat generated from the sun's radiation attacks the layer, causing brittle damages to the felt.

Change in Temperature
Temperature fluctuation is also a significant factor in the felt's lifespan. The extremity of temperature experienced by the felt can play a role in determining how long it lasts before it compromises and needs replacing.
Increased temperatures accelerate the photo-oxidation of the felt, therefore leading to a higher deterioration rate. At low temperatures, the rate of expansion of the felt increases. Making the felt vulnerable to splitting under applied stress.

Atmospheric Gases
The atmosphere is made up of some gases such as nitrogen (78%), oxygen (21%), water vapour, and other gases make the remaining (1%). Chemical reactions between these gases can lead to the formation of certain oxides and hydroxides. These formations react with the felt surface to expedite a corrosive chemical reaction, which is detrimental of the felts structure.

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Trees and Natural Debris

Branches from trees and bushes that overhang the roofing expose the felt to potential damage from accumulated abrasions and impact. This can also increase the collection of leaves and other debris on the felt surface which will lead to increased moisture and naturally rotting foliage.

Since environmental factors are out of our control, we are unable to offer a guarantee on our roofing felt. We recommend considering an alternative roofing option such as Coritec or EPDM Rubber which offer their own individual guarantee periods.

You can control a few factors and manage the rest, typically it would be good practice for you to plan the initial position of your building then adopt a regular roof maintenance check and replace the roofing felt as required.

N.B. Roofing felt will shrink and expand due to temperature fluctuations resulting in a rippled appearance, this is unavoidable and will not warrant a re-felt.