



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Primary Product Uses:

WAKAFLEX; primary flashing to replace traditional lead flashing in all applications, predominantly used on residential tile roofs but can also be used on metal and polycarbonate. It can stretch up to 50% and it can be installed on 3 dimensional profiles.

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Q: Where can I buy Wakaflex? – (For specific location please use Reseller Pivot Table)

A: There is a list of our resellers on our website www.evobuild.com.au on the where to buy page. The following chains either stock Wakaflex or can order it in for you:

- Hudson Building Supplies
- Hardware & General
- Masters Home Improvement
- Stratco
- Mitre 10
- Reece
- Tradelink
- Home Hardware
- Plumbers Supplies co-op
- Midcoast Timbers

Q: Is Wakaflex cheaper than lead flashing?

A: Wakaflex is usually cheaper than lead flashing by around 20% based on a per lineal meter rate. Remember that all our flashings come in a 5m roll. Lead is usually comes in 3m roll. On average Wakaflex is \$150 for a 280mm x 5m roll and lead is \$155 for a 300mm x 3m Roll.

Q: Can you use Wakaflex to fix existing faulty/leaking lead flashing?

Yes the easiest way is to lift up your existing lead and install Wakaflex directly underneath it, you can install the Wakaflex in full 5m lengths. Then dress down the existing lead over the Wakaflex as an over-flashing. You can trim the existing lead back if you want a smaller over-flashing. If you completely remove the lead you will need to chase the Wakaflex back into brickwork, or go underneath the fascia.

Q: Where can Wakaflex be installed?

A: Wakaflex can be installed in any situation where traditional lead flashings is installed. Abutments, Dutch Gables, Step-Flashings & Chimneys. Sky Lights, Penetration flashings. Smartform can also be used to line normal gutters and box gutters and is suitable for the maintenance of existing flashings. Smartform can be used to go over tile, metal or polycarbonate roofing sheets with leakage problems.

Q: Can Silicone & Sikaflex be used on Wakaflex?

A: We recommend Sikaflex Pro should be used with Wakaflex. Roofer's silicon is not recommended.

Q: Can Wakaflex & be installed on corrugated roof profiles?

A: Yes Wakaflex is compatible with metal & polycarbonate roofing materials and can be easily stretched to provide a tight fit on corrugated profiles.

Q: Do you need any specialist tools to install Wakaflex?

A: No tools are required, Wakaflex can be installed and dressed down by hand. The easy way to dress Wakaflex is by using both thumbs. How much you dress the main body of Wakaflex to the roof profile is up to the installer, however the butyl sealing strips must be dressed down to the roof to create adhesion and a watertight seal.

Q: Can Wakaflex be used as Dampcourse?

A: Yes Wakaflex is fully tested to AS/NZS 2904:1995 Damp Proof Course & Flashings.

Q: Can Wakaflex be painted?

A: Yes an outdoor acrylic paint should be used such as Watty Solagard or Dulux Weather Shield.

Q: Can Wakaflex be installed if you have a water tank for potable water?

A: Yes, Wakaflex is completely non-toxic and it fully tested to AS/NZS 4020:2005: Products in contact with drinking water. Wakaflex will not change the colour or taste of water it comes in contact with.

Q: How do I install Wakaflex?

A: In the same way as you would install lead flashing. Wakaflex is installed horizontally for abutments, gables and pitches roofs where there is a fascia or cladding on the second storey level. If Wakaflex is to be installed on a pitched roof on a brick second storey then it must be built in as Step-Flashing or it can be chased into the brickwork or it can be mechanically over-flashed with a thin strip of metal. Please check your local building codes. All local builders & plumbers should understand how it should be installed. **(For more installation details see question below)**

Q: How is the installation of Wakaflex different from lead?

A: Wakaflex can be installed in full 5m lengths whereas Lead (20kg for external flashings) must be installed in sheets no longer than 1.5m with 150mm over-lap when joining sheets. Wakaflex only requires a 50mm over-lap to join rolls and it chemically bonds together forming a watertight join. 20kg lead flashing is very heavy and difficult to move around the roof but Wakaflex is very light, it's only 4.6kg for a 280mm x 5m roll so it's much easier to install. Wakaflex is also available in 4 colours, Grey, Black, Terracotta and Brown.

Q: Can Wakaflex just be stuck up against the brickwork, rendered wall or fascia?

A No. Wakaflex must always be built in, chased in or over-flashed to ensure the warranty is valid. A mechanical over-flashing such as a metal strip can be used in some instances. Please check with your local building codes. Wakaflex is not covered by the warranty if it's just adhered to external brickwork or fascia.

Q: Can Wakaflex be used on Metal & Polycarbonate roofs?

A: Yes Wakaflex does not react with and metal or plastic roofing material. Although Wakaflex is designed to replace lead flashing on tiled roofs it can also be used to metal & polycarbonate, however it must still be built-in, chased-in or over-flashed. Wakaflex cannot be placed onto an open patch of metal roof as a patch. **(Smartform & Fastfix are suited to this application)**

Q: Can Wakaflex be installed on a property prone to bushfire?

Wakaflex has been tested to BAL29 (Bushfire Attack Level) which means it can be installed on properties in areas categorised BAL29 and below as long as the installation follows CSIRO's recommendations which is the correct installation with no air space behind the Wakaflex flashing. Please contact us if you require further information.

Q: Where is Wakaflex made and how long has it been on the market?

A: Wakaflex is made in Germany, Europe. It has been on the global market for over 20 years and has been available in Australia for the last 7 years.

Q: How long is Wakaflex guaranteed for?

A: Wakaflex comes with a 10 years guarantee as long as it's installed according to the installation instructions. The guarantee does not cover incorrect installation, accidental damage or acts of god.

Q: What is Wakaflex made of and what are its properties?

A: The main body of Wakaflex is made from a synthetic rubber called Polyisobutylene. It's a semi-solid rubber material that's anti-aging, non-toxic and tasteless. Has good chemical stability and is resistant to heat, ozone and UV light. It's also completely impermeable to water and air. The high molecular weight (not to be confused with mass) ensures it will not harden, crack or peel. The Polyisobutylene based synthetic rubber formulation used in the manufacture of Wakaflex has been specifically developed for its purpose as a lead-free flashing in residential construction.

Apart from the major advantages mentioned above it has the unique feature of being able to physically 'fuse' to itself creating a completely waterproof overlap when jointing rolls end to end or on corner joins such as around chimneys, dormer fronts, skylights, and roof mounted climate management equipment.

Within the Polyisobutylene there is an extruded Aluminium honeycomb mesh that is designed to expand and stretch when Wakaflex is moulded to the roof profile. Once the profile is imprinted into the aluminium mesh it stays in that position so Wakaflex replicates the roof profile exactly. To ensure Wakaflex does not lift under high wind conditions and to make sure no water can be drawn up between Wakaflex and the roof surface there are two pure Butyl sealing strips that run along the two 5m edges of the roll. These strips provide a long lasting seal between the two surfaces.

Q: What is Wakaflex's BAL (Bushfire Attack Level) Rating?

A: Roof finishing products such as flashings are not considered 'in isolation' in terms of BAL assessment; it is the roof system which must meet the assessment of the site. New homes, or existing residential premises to be renovated/extended must undergo a BAL assessment as part of the application for a building permit. This is a site assessment which will determine the construction methods that must be used to ensure appropriate protection from bushfires. The assessment takes into account such factors as the Fire Danger Index; the terrain; the types of surrounding vegetation; the proximity of that vegetation to the building; and normally prevailing wind directions(s). It is the responsibility of a building surveyor to use AS3959 to ensure compliance with the construction requirements of the standard.

Wakaflex lead-free flashing has been tested by CSIRO (Test report EP121796) in accordance with AS1530.8.1 and has been assessed as suitable to the regulatory requirements attached to BAL – 29 assessed construction when correctly installed totally flush to the host roof system. Cavities of any kind (voids) are **NOT** to be left between the Wakaflex lead-free flashing and the host roof components (tile/slate/steel, etc). To ensure the installation is in accordance with BAL – 29 please see the Wakaflex Installation Guidelines document for diagrams.