



GAP WaterGuard™ Building Wrap/House Wrap Frequently Asked Questions

Q– Why do you have two building wrap (house wrap) products?

A– We sell two different “breathable” building wrap technologies: GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” - a breathable membrane material and GAP WaterGuard HouseWrap - a micro-perforated, breathable material.

GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier”

- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” utilizes the latest building science technologies to create a breathable membrane fabric offering a “balanced” vapor permeance, while providing excellent resistance to bulk water and air flow infiltration. GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” meets all national and local code listing requirements for weather resistive barriers (WRB) (ICC-ES ESR #2235, CCMC #13329-R, CCMC #13392-R).
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” can be used for residential and commercial applications and performs as good as or better than the top leading brands of breathable membrane materials (e.g., Tyvek, Typar, etc.)

GAP WaterGuard HouseWrap

- GAP WaterGuard HouseWrap utilizes woven, polyolefin material with “micro” perforations to allow damaging moisture as a vapor to escape while shedding bulk water away from the wall cavity. (ICC-ES ESR#3431).
- GAP WaterGuard HouseWrap is a high strength, lower cost house wrap material that is commonly used for residential buildings, where acceptable by local building codes.

Q– What is the difference between GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” Building Wrap and DuPont Tyvek?

A– The only G.A.P. ROOFING, INC. material that competes with Tyvek is GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier”. GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” was created to offer superior advantages over Tyvek and is based on the latest building science technologies.

- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” has a more desirable vapor permeance rating (breathability factor) for today’s building practices. The latest building science claims that the optimal permeance range for building wraps should be between 10 – 20 perms ...GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” is 11 perms, standard Tyvek is greater than 30 perms.
- The GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” structure is designed to minimize propagation (easy and continuous tearing after the material is damaged) and tearing under tension. With Tyvek, these issues are found throughout the installation and building process, creating continuous repair and/or replacement of Tyvek materials.
- The GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” structure is a clean design with a white, non-woven material that offers good translucency so that contractors can easily locate studs, openings and fastening points by simply looking “through” the material, making it easier to install than opaque Tyvek.
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” is a non-woven, soft (to the feel), flexible material that does not create noise when exposed to outside conditions (wind). The constant noise of Tyvek flapping in the wind can be very loud, making it difficult to communicate between contractors, and can be very stressful and annoying to listen to all day!
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” has a 15 year Limited Warranty where Tyvek only has a 10 year Limited Warranty
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” puncture resistance is twice as strong as Tyvek, protecting against nails popping/pulling through the fabric for many of those jobsite bumps and bruises.



GAP WaterGuard
Complete Building Envelope Series



Q– What is the difference between GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” Building Wrap and Fiberweb Typar?

A– The only G.A.P. ROOFING, INC. material that competes with Typar is GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier”. GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” was created to offer superior advantages over Typar and is based on the latest building science technologies.

- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” and Typar have a similar vapor permeance rating. The latest building science claims that the optimal vapor permeance for building wraps should be between 10 – 20 perms . GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” is 11 perms, standard Typar is 16 perms.
- The GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” structure is a clean design with a white, non-woven material that offers good translucency so that contractors can easily locate studs, openings and fastening points by simply looking “through” the material, making it easier to install than opaque Typar.
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” has a 15 year Limited Warranty while Typar has a 10 year Limited Warranty (they do promote a lifetime, single family warranty is available).
- GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier’s” puncture resistance is twice as strong as Tyvek, protecting against nails popping/pulling through the fabric for many of those jobsite bumps and bruises.

Q– Can GAP WaterGuard Building/HouseWrap materials be used under all types of exterior wall cladding (i.e., vinyl & aluminum siding, cedar, stucco, brick, etc.)?

A– Some cladding manufacturers specify the types of building wrap that needs to be behind their materials, especially if the material is pressed up tightly against the building wrap (to create an air space). For the most part, the type of material is controlled by your local code listings. All GAP WaterGuard Building/HouseWrap materials products are designed to be used behind all wall cladding materials that have at least a 10mm space between the wall and the exterior cladding material.

Q– How long can GAP WaterGuard Building/HouseWrap materials be exposed to the elements (sun, rain, etc.) before it is covered?

A– Both GAP WaterGuard “Air Barrier” and GAP WaterGuard HouseWrap can be exposed for up to 6 months. This material must be properly installed and sheathing tapes used for all overlaps or fitted areas.

Q– Can you print my company name on your material?

A– Yes! We have many customers that print their name on our materials and it offers the builder/contractor/distributor additional advertising and awareness to their company. Below are the standard printing conditions including a minimal charge for this service (not available on 36” wide material):

- Personalized logo centered with an 24” width and a 36” repeat
- 4 standard colors (Black, Blue Red and Green)
- One time plate cost of \$350 per color
- Minimum order: 160 rolls, standard lead-time: 6 weeks (after approval of artwork and plates)

Q – Where can I get your materials?

A – We sell our GAP WaterGuard Building/HouseWrap materials through 1-step and 2-step distribution as well as major lumber dealers.