



**THE WORLDS NO.1 LEAD FREE FLASHING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Wakaflex Summary**

Wakaflex is a premium lead free flashing that is an alternative to traditional lead flashing. It is predominantly used on residential tile roofs but can also be used on metal and polycarbonate. No specialist tools are required, and installation can be up to 50% quicker than traditional lead flashing.

Wakaflex is highly durable composed of a polyisobutylene top sheet, an inner mesh for strength, and two butyl strips for adhesion, and it's the only lead free flashing on the market to have a Bush Fire Attack Rating.

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## Q: Where can I buy Wakaflex?

A: You can use our "Where To Buy" function on the Evo Build website at the following location: <https://evobuild.com.au/where-to-buy/> to find a stockist near to you.

The following locations will all carry stock of Wakaflex:

NSW	VIC	WA	QLD	ACT

## 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?

A: 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, and used as a penetration flashing. Wakaflex can be installed on all roofing material types, including but not limited to: Tile, Colorbond (metal), Polycarbonate, Copper and Zinc. Wakaflex can't be used on a flat roof, or in the middle of a roof as a patch. The roof that Wakaflex is installed on must be at least a 12 degree pitch.

**Q: Can Silicone, Sikaflex and Glue be used on Wakaflex?**

**A:** If you need to use a sealant then we recommend using Sikaflex Pro. Roofer's silicone and glue is not recommended. Sikaflex Pro should not be used between the roof material and the Wakaflex itself though, as this will affect the adhesive performance of the butyl strip.

**Q: Can you clean the area with acid and then install Wakaflex?**

**A:** Acid wash is usually diluted and doesn't affect the Wakaflex but it is recommended to do the acid wash before installing and give the Wakaflex a good hose down with water to ensure the acid isn't sitting on the Wakaflex.

**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: Can Wakaflex be installed over Asbestos?**

**A:** Asbestos is not recommended as it can be powdery and it may not stick to the Wakaflex as well as other surfaces. The area must always be clean and dry before using Wakaflex.

**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. **A lead dresser should not be used with Wakaflex**, but a roller can be used to help the Wakaflex.

**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, Wakaflex can be painted to match in with any building design. An outdoor acrylic paint (water based) should be used such as Wattyl Solaguard 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**. The roof must be **pitched at least 12 degrees**. Wakaflex is not suitable for use on flat roofs or patches in the middle of roofs. 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, so Wakaflex is up to 50% quicker to install than lead and no specialist tools are required.

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 can be installed on all common roof materials (including metal roofs).

Wakaflex is available in 3 widths: 280mm, 370mm and 560mm and 4 colours: Grey, Black, Terracotta and Brown. See chart below.

Colour/Width	280mm	370mm	560mm
Lead Grey	●	●	●
Black	●	●	●
Brown	●	-	-
Terracotta	●	●	●

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

**A:** No, Wakaflex **must always be built in, chased in or mechanically 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.

## INSTALLATION

**Over flash the top edge**

Build in, chase in, or mechanically over-flash

**Clean the material being flashed on to**

Soapy water/methylated spirits



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

**A:** Yes, Wakaflex does not react with any metal or plastic roofing material. Although Wakaflex is designed to replace lead flashing on tiled roofs, it can also be used on metal and polycarbonate, however, it must still be built-in, chased-in or over-flashed. Wakaflex cannot be installed in the middle of a metal or polycarb roof with the top edge exposed to running water.

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

**A:** Wakaflex is the only lead free flashing on the market that can be used in this scenario. Wakaflex has been tested to Bushfire Attack Level 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 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 25 years and has been available in Australia for the last 15 years. Wakaflex is the leading lead free roofing flashing roll in Australia and the world having sold over 8 million rolls across 40 countries.

**Q: What is the warranty period for Wakaflex?**

**A:** Wakaflex comes with a 10 year warranty as long as it's installed according to the installation instructions. The warranty does not cover incorrect installation, accidental damage or an instance of uncontrollable natural forces. Please see our warranty online for further information.

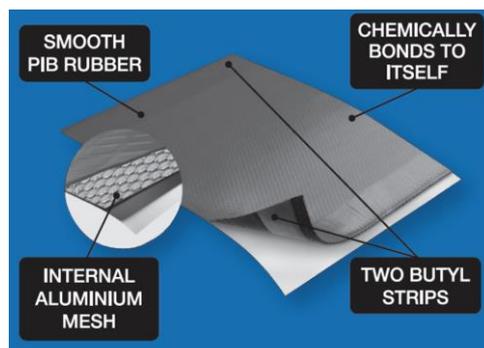
**Q: What is Wakaflex made of and what are its properties?**

**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 chemically 'fuse' to itself creating a completely waterproof overlap when joining 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.

