This is intended as a general guide for roof replacement and does not cover all details. Each product used has specific instructions. Read and Follow these. Before starting read all Safety Data Sheets. Use Fall Protection.

RV / Motorhome Re-Roofing Overview

Best Industry Practices

Updated by Best Materials®.

Photos and text courtesy Dicor.
P.O. Box 1806 - Elkhart, IN 46515

If overlapping old and new product (patch), or making seams, see the Best Materials Patch Repair guide here:
Decking must be fastened to the roof frame with nails, staples, or screws. Resheet with exterior grade plywood. USE DECK SCREWS WHERE POSSIBLE. NAILS CAN BACK-OUT.

The edge of the decking must be fastened securely to the rail. All metal must be below the edge of the roof deck.
All fasteners must be set below the decking surface.

Decking joints must be securely fastened to rafters.

USE DECK SCREWS TO PREVENT BACK-OUT OF FASTENERS.
Decking should also be fastened to all rafters that land in the mid field of the sheet.

SuperSeam Tape is applied over all seams.
The seam tape is to be centered over the seam.

ALSO COVER ALL FASTENERS.
Prior to applying adhesive, the EPDM sheet is unrolled onto the clean roof deck in order to check length and how the EPDM will fit in the space. If EPDM sheet has wrinkles, let it rest for a few days.

The EPDM sheet is pulled back or booked to expose the front half of the roof deck.
The front half of the roof is ready for the EPDM adhesive to be applied.

READ ADHESIVE INSTRUCTIONS. Thoroughly mix adhesive well first (5 minutes). Adhesive is applied in an even and continuous coat with a 1/2" nap roller to BOTH surfaces. Application rate is 60 sqft/Gallon total. Allow to flash-off until its not wet.
The EPDM is gradually rolled forward to eliminate trapping air, or dragging glue forward, that might occur if it was pulled forward.

F1703 Wet Lay Bonding Adhesive allows brooming out wrinkles and repositioning EPDM if needed. ALL others do not.

Order from Best Materials®

Roll, then cross roll to make an even coverage.

Application Rates:
100 sqft/gallon for F1703 Wet Lay (one side only).
120 sqft/gallon for standard Adhesives, on BOTH Surfaces.
The rear half of the roof deck EPDM is then booked, as was done on the front half.

The rear half of the roof deck is then ready to apply the proper amount of adhesive. If using F1703 Wet Lay, more adhesive is NOT added to EPDM.
After the EPDM is placed on the adhesive, a squeegee is used to lightly push the rubber from the middle of the unit to the front end and the rear. This will provide tight EPDM over the roof seams and a smooth surface. Caution should be used to prevent pushing the adhesive around under the rubber. Alternatively, a stiff broom can be used.

Removing Wrinkles or reposition EPDM can only be done if you use F1703 Wet Lay Adhesive. Do not apply Standard Adhesive to one side and apply EPDM while its wet -- bubbles will result.

All wrinkles are moved to the rear.
These wrinkles are worked to the rear evenly.

Once the rear is completed, the same process is done on the front half.
View from the front of the roof.

Front end view.
Front end view.

Roof vent openings are cut as shown above.
The flaps are pulled down, stapled, and the excess EPDM is trimmed.
When the EPDM is lifted back, there should be an even coating on the back of the sheet with all areas coated.

A broom may also be used to brush down the EPDM onto the roof deck.
When completed, a hand print should be slightly visible if pressed onto the EPDM sheet. As the adhesive dries the print will disappear.

Finally, finish roof edges by reapplying termination bar.
Use new Butyl Rubber sealant under term-bar.
Use M1 sealant to seal odd penetrations.

SEAMS: Please see this document for detail instructions:
Summary: The membrane should be positioned so that the width of the seam is 3". Remove excess chalk from a chalk line by snapping the line into the air and then chalk a line one-quarter (1/4") to one half inch (1/2") from the leading seam edge. Fold the top sheet back to expose the seam area. Using the 1/2" nap phenolic roller apply the WeatherBond Multipurpose Primer to the seam area until the seam surface attains a smooth black appearance. Apply the WeatherBond Multipurpose Primer past the seam edge to the chalk line. Allow the Primer to flash off. Unroll the 3" wide Seam Tape along the length of the seam, tape side down, aligning the Seam Tape (not the clear backing) along the chalk line. Using moderate pressure set the Seam Tape into place to keep air from being trapped under the tape. Fold the top membrane onto the Seam Tape release paper. If the Seam Tape does not visibly extend beyond the leading seam edge, the membrane edge should be cut back to expose one-quarter inch (1/4") of Seam Tape.) Reaching under the top ply of membrane, pull the release paper away from the Seam Tape at a 45-degree angle to the seam. While removing the paper, draw your hand across the seam, from the back to the leading edge. This will prevent wrinkles and fish mouths from forming in the seam. After the paper is removed, roll the entire length of the seam with a steel or silicone hand roller. First, across the seam, and then the length of the seam. NOTE: When splicing Seam Tape, overlap each piece a minimum of one inch and firmly roll with a steel or silicone hand roller. Apply a secondary layer of COVERSTRIP tape over seam edge. Clean and prime this area before applying as above. Otherwise apply M1 sealant along the seam’s leading edge.