

## WHAT IS KICK OUT FLASHING:

The exterior of a house presents plenty of opportunity for leaks. A common problem area is the point where the gutter on a single-story roof eave dies into a two-story wall. Roofers or siding contractors often install step flashing that allows roof water to slip behind the gutter and get behind the siding and even the housewrap.

Omitting the needed kickout flashings almost always leads to major damage inside the wood framing behind the exterior cladding. Sometimes this damage is totally concealed until the exterior is opened up, and other times, the damage is blatantly obvious, even when viewed from across the street.

Kickout flashings are used where a lower roofline terminates against a vertical wall. The kickout is installed above the rain gutter and/or drip edge flashing where the roof meets a vertical wall. It kicks out rain water and diverts it away from the lower wall. Without a kickout flashing, the water misses the gutter and runs in behind the siding and gets trapped inside the wall. Missing, or incorrectly installed, kickout flashings are often the source of major structural, mold, and rot damage.