

# Bending V-Crimped Valley Flashing

The inverted “V” sends water down the valley, where it belongs

Every once in awhile, I’m asked to use a V-crimped valley flashing profile. Typically, it’s when I’m installing a metal roof where a valley is formed by intersecting roofs of different pitches.

by Tom Brewer

The rationale behind the V-crimp is that it will prevent the steeper roof runoff from running back up the adjoining shallow roof. I’ve seen it specified for asphalt shingle roofs, but I prefer to use a closed valley. The protruding ridge of the V-crimp can easily be damaged if someone accidentally steps in the valley. A cardinal rule is never to step in a valley, but accidents happen, and a misshapen V-crimp is unsightly and difficult to realign.

I use a 10-foot brake to form the V-crimp. The throat capacity of the brake limits how far a piece of flashing material can be inserted. Since the V-crimp is located in the center of the valley flashing, the brake’s throat capacity must be at least half the width of the valley flashing.

I typically work with 24-inch-wide flashing, so the 14-inch throat of my brake provides plenty of room to form the required bends.



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A



B

After marking a centerline on the valley flashing, the author forms the ridge of the V-crimp (A). A layout line representing one side of V-crimp base is marked 1 inch from the centerline fold (B). The flashing is flipped upside down, reinserted in the brake, and bent at the layout line (C, next page). After turning the flashing around in the brake, the opposite V-crimp base is folded (D).

Next the author folds a hem along each edge (E). To prevent water and insects from getting inside the V, tabs are cut (F) and folded over (G). Finally, clips are bent from scrap stock for attaching the flashing to the roof (H). Because they allow the flashing to expand and contract along its length, clips are a better way than nails to attach valley flashings on any kind of roof.

