

# Why is my Roof Dripping Black Stuff?

If you live in Texas or Florida or any other state in which the summer sun doesn't seem to quit, you may have seen a slate, tile or synthetic roof that has black "goo" dripping from it. This problem is at a minimum, puzzling for the homeowner and at a maximum, a largely problematic. There are only two explanations for this issue.

First, we have come across a number of roofs that were installed with a regular Ice and Water shield underneath the system. However, in irregularly hot regions of the country, the roof can get exceptionally hot. Slate, tile, and synthetics installed in these climates should always be installed with a HT (high temperature) Ice and Water shield to avoid any potential melting of the underlayment from the increased temperatures in the summer. Simply, while not common, contractors in hotter climates ought to install an underlayment capable of withstanding the extreme summer heat to avoid any potential melting. If they did not, this is the contractors fault.

The second possibility is unfortunately a more common one. If the contractor correctly installed a HT Ice and Water shield *intended* to withstand the extreme heat of southern summers and that HT Ice & Water fails, then there is a failure on the manufacturers side. Notoriously, Tamko made a HT Ice & Water which has been known to fail. If that is the case, homeowners are able to [file a claim against Tamko](#) for a defective product.

In these scenarios the first step is to call a contractor with knowledge of the specific roofing system and correct installation procedure. Unlike an insurance claim, which commonly is handled via a public adjuster, manufacturer claims are much more contractor dependent. So,

knowing you have a contractor familiar with the situation and one that has handled it before is essential.

If this is your situation, give Jack Cella at Priority Roofing a call at 609-668-1419 or email at [jack@priorityroofs.com](mailto:jack@priorityroofs.com).

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