

TECHNICAL DATASHEET - Vent3 Excel – Breathable Membrane

Description

Weighing in at 190gsm, this premium roofing felt is BS5534 compliant, ensuring it meets the highest standards of wind uplift resistance and weather protection. Designed with breathability in mind, it provides effective moisture management, preventing condensation and ensuring the longevity of your roof.

Vent3 Excel is a high-density, durable, triple-layer fabric and high-performance breather membrane, made from high-tensile spun-bonded polypropylene layers surrounding a microporous polypropylene film. Designed for use as a universal breather membrane for roofs and walls boasting superior moisture vapour permeability. Vent3 Excel has a printed light blue upper surface with preprinted marking lines and a white under-face. The high vapour permeability and waterproof properties of the membrane, combined with excellent tensile/tear strength, make Vent3 Excel an ideal product for use in all pitched roof applications. It will allow the escape of water vapour from within the roof structure whilst protecting against wind driven rain, snow and dust which may penetrate the main roof waterproofing, providing a permanent quality breather underlay, which will last the life of the roof construction.

Benefits

- Independently tested and BS 5534:2014+A2:2018 compliant
- Conforms with BS 5250 guidelines
- Meet NHBC guidance for underlays in pitched roof applications
- Clean and easy to use
- Excellent tensile and tear strength
- Waterproof properties
- Long term durability
- UV Stable (3 months exposure)
- Warm and Cold Roof Application



PRODUCT DATA

Product	Weight	Flame Retardancy	Sizes	Colour	Nail Tear Strength	Tensile Strength	Elongation %	Water Vapour Transmission (sd) m	Water Vapour Resistance MNs/G	BS 5534 Zones Compliance	UV resistance	Roll weight Kg	Pallet quantity (50m rolls)
Vent 3 Excel	190gsm	Class E EN 13501-1	1m & 1.5m x 50m	Light Blue / White	318 N 289 N	340N/50mm 280N/50mm	45 MD 77 XD	W1	<0.03	BS 5534:2014 +A1:2018	3 months	9.5 14.25	56 48

BS 5534:2014+A2:2018 Wind Uplift

Each individual Vent3[®] underlay product has the batten gauge & zonal application for wind uplift printed on this packaging. The manufacturer's declared values are available from the Cromar website and the BBA certificate. The Vent3[®] underlays may be used at any batten gauge in all wind zones when laid over nominally air-tight sheet sarking for example OSB, plywood, chipboard and insulation for warm-roof design. They may also be used in applications where slates are nailed directly onto sarking boards. Sarking boards, such as square-edged butt jointed planks, are not considered to be air-tight and the underlay is treated as unsupported.

	345mm Battened Lap	250mm Battened Lap	345mm Taped Lap	250mm Taped Lap
Vent3 Excel	1 - 4	1 - 5	1 - 5	1 - 5





Application

Vent3 Excel must be installed in accordance with the relevant sections of BS 5534:2014+A2:2018 and Cromar's fixing instructions.

Vent3 Excel is designed as a secondary barrier to wind driven rain and snow, it should not be considered a primary waterproofing layer. Whilst the product is UV stable for up to 3 months exposure, good roofing practice dictates that the primary waterproofing finish (e.g. tiles, slates etc.) be applied as soon as practically possible.

Under slating membranes should not be considered as temporary weatherproof protection for occupied buildings or where internal fitting out is taking place. Additional protection should be afforded in these circumstances.

Vent3 Excel should be unrolled across the roof, starting at the eaves and working up the roof, it is laid Light Blue (printed) side up. With normal slates and tiles the Vent3 Excel membrane can be installed draped 10mm to 15mm into the void between the rafters, it can then be secured with the tiling battens. This will leave sufficient space between the Vent3 Excel and the tiles/slates for drainage and ventilation. Vent3 Excel when installed as a fully supported system, is laid over the support and secured with counter battens, alternatively the membrane can be installed over counter battens and fixed at 200mm centres using corrosion resistant straps or galvanised clout nails. Tiling battens are fixed to the counter battens leaving a minimum airspace of 25mm between the roof sheet underlay and the tiles for drainage and ventilation.

When installing breathable roofing felt in a cold roof application, it is recommended to provide ventilation at the ridge level to allow effective airflow and prevent condensation buildup. The breathable membrane helps reduce moisture accumulation within the roofing structure, but additional ventilation at the ridge enhances this function by allowing warm, moist air to escape efficiently. This setup promotes a continuous air exchange, which is essential in cold roof designs to maintain roof health and prevent issues related to trapped moisture, such as mould or timber decay. Ensure all ventilation openings are clear and unobstructed for optimal performance.

In unventilated roof systems vapour control measures are required below the insulation layer to restrict the flow of moist air from within the inhabited building into the roof space. Additionally, the building below should be ventilated in accordance with the Building Regulations with water tanks sealed.

Abutment flashing should be wedged into a mortar joint 25mm deep and at least 150mm above the level of the slates or tiles. Vent3 Excel underlay should be turned up behind the flashing at least 100mm to prevent rain and snow being blown into the roof-space. Lap joints in the membrane should be generally in accordance with the table set out below. 600mm reinforcing strips should be fixed at hips, ridges and valleys.

At the eaves Cromar felt support trays should be installed to prevent ponding behind the fascia. The Vent3 Excel should be laid over the support tray stopping short of the roof tile tails to prevent UV degradation of the underlay.



Notes

1. As with all breather membranes of this type, contact with solvents or wet timber preservatives can cause localised water penetration to occur, prior to the main weatherproofing being installed.
2. In accordance with BS 5534:2014+A2:2018 where a roof underlay or breather membrane is to be laid over open rafters, a nominal drape of 10mm between the rafters is desirable to guide any rainwater penetrating the main roof finish away from the rafters to the drainage point. (The membrane must not be pulled tight against the underside of the tiling battens.)
3. Vent3 Pro should never be considered as being a total protection against wind-blown rain and high winds.

Limitations

- It is the user's responsibility to ensure suitability for use. Safety Data available on request.
- Read the label carefully for essential health and safety information prior to use.
- Health & Safety Care should always be taken when working at height. The safety of all working in construction is critical, above and below. Cromar Vent3 breather membranes should not be used as part of a fall arrest system.
- Exposure – Vent3 breather membranes may remain unprotected for up to 3 months, but recommended practice is to install tiles or slates as soon as possible, to minimise risk of water ingress through unsealed overlaps, edges and nail holes after any rain, in line with the guidance from the NHBC and the BBA we recommend the felt be covered in just a few days.

Further Information:

In the event of further queries or problems concerning the use of this product, please contact the address below, e-mail sales@cromar.uk.com.

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