

# Roof-to-Wall and Deck-to-Wall Flashing

**Purpose:** To emphasize the importance of proper roof and deck flashing, and to provide typical and enhanced flashing techniques for coastal homes.

## Key Issues

- Poor performance of flashing and subsequent water intrusion is a **common problem** for coastal homes.
- **Enhanced flashing techniques are recommended** in areas that frequently experience high winds and driving rain.
- **Water penetration** at deck ledgers can cause **wood dry rot and corrosion of connectors** leading to **deck collapse**.

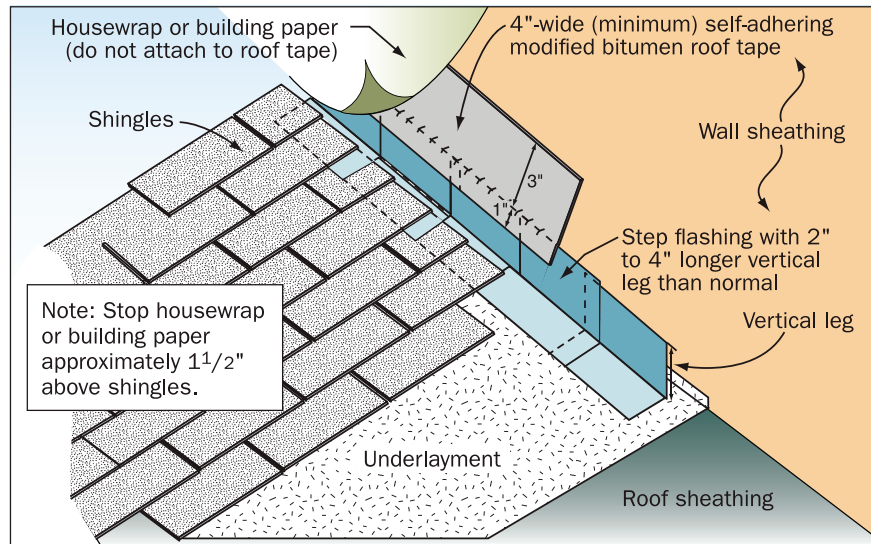


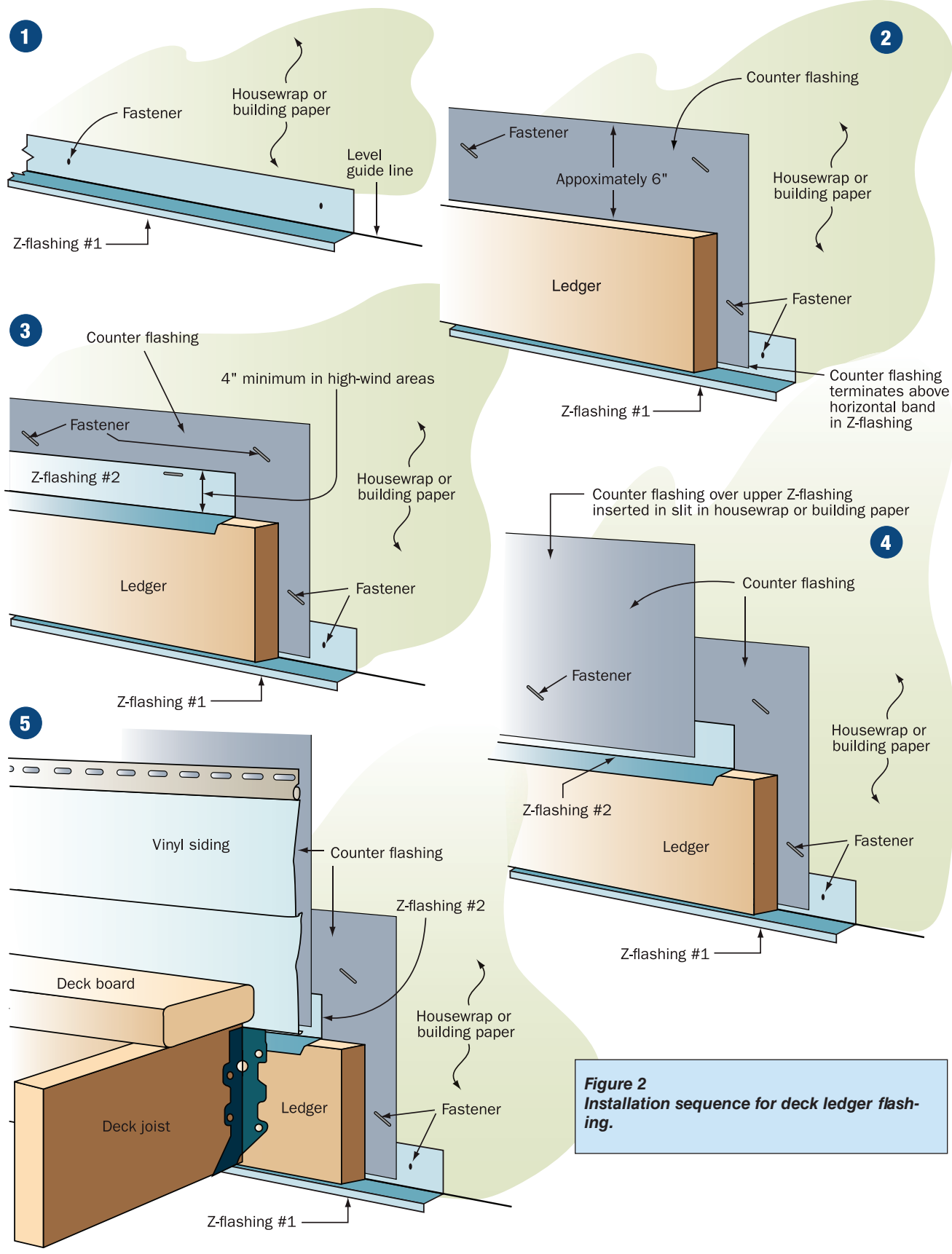
Figure 1. Roof/wall flashing detail.

## Roof and Deck Flashing Recommendations for Coastal Areas

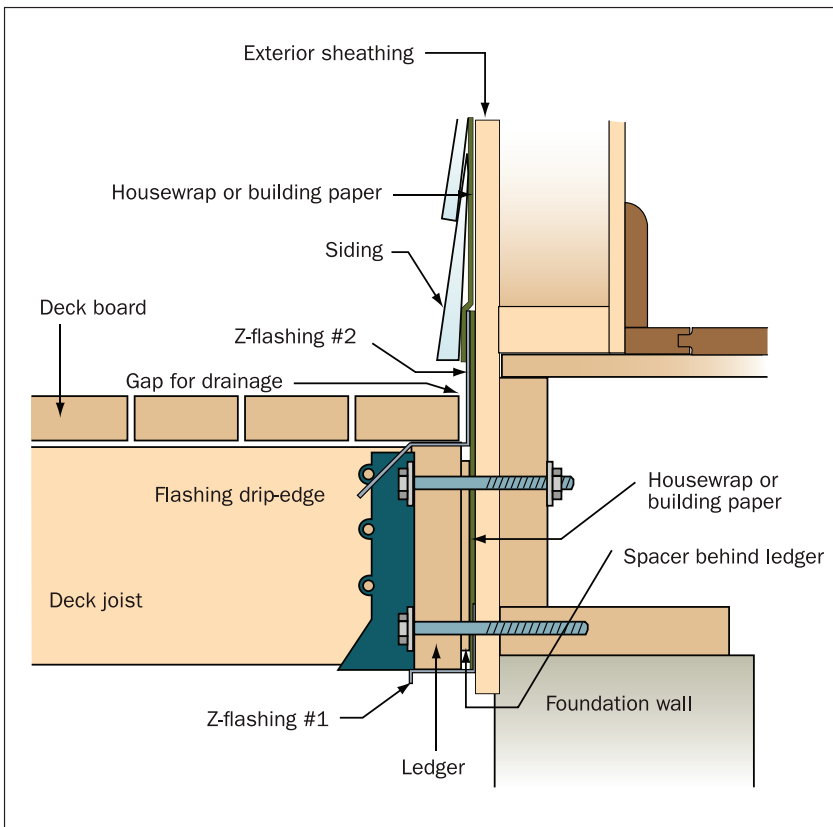
- **Always** lap flashing and other moisture barriers properly.
- Use increased lap lengths for added protection.
- Do not rely on sealant as a substitute for proper lapping.
- Use fasteners that are compatible with or of the same type of metal as the flashing material.
- Use flashing cement at joints to help secure flashing.
- At roof-to-wall intersections (see Figure 1):
  - Use step flashing that has a 2- to 4-inch-longer vertical leg than normal.
  - Tape the top of step flashing with 4-inch-wide (minimum) self-adhering modified bitumen roof tape.
  - Do not seal housewrap or building paper to step flashing.
- For deck flashing:
  - Follow proper installation sequence to prevent water penetration at deck ledger (see Figure 2).
  - Leave gap between first deck board and flashing to allow for drainage (see Figure 3).
  - Use spacer behind ledger to provide gap for drainage (see Figure 3).
  - Use stainless steel deck connection hardware.

See Fact Sheet Nos. 7.2 and 7.3 for rake and eave details.





**Figure 2**  
Installation sequence for deck ledger flashing.



**Figure 3 Deck ledger flashing.**

*Developed in association with the National Association of Home Builders Research Center*



