Q. HOW LONG WILL MY MASTER FLASH® FLASHING LAST?

A. All Master Flash® products come with a 20 Year Warranty. In tests of tensile strength, elongation, tearing, and hardness, the Master Flash® range proved to be the strongest and most resistant to weathering when compared with other leading brands.

Q. WHERE ARE PIPE FLASHINGS USED?

A. Pipe Flashings are used anywhere that pipes, conduits, or wires exit through a roof, – flat, slanted, or corrugated – a side panel, or a wall.

Q. ARE PIPE FLASHINGS ONLY USED IN METAL ROOFS?

A. Although Master Flash® flashings were originally engineered for the metal roofing industry, the range has expanded to include products suitable for electrical, plumbing, and heating/air conditioning uses. There is also a range specifically for residential roofs with a choice of pitches and metal bases. Today, Master Flash® products can be used with shake, shingle, concrete, and tile roofs.

Q. SHOULD I USE A SQUARE BASE OR A ROUND BASE?

A. This choice is up to the installer, or the buyer. Square-based flashings are the most common choice in the UK market as they are easier to secure over an over-sized hole. Some buyers prefer the aesthetic appeal of a round-based flashing around a pipe. The main concern is the base size of a flashing and making sure that it is wide enough to accommodate the hole in the roof.

Q. DO I NEED EPDM OR SILICONE?

A. EPDM (Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer) is the most common choice. Silicone should be used for hot temperature conditions. EPDM flashings can withstand continuous temperatures of up to 100° Celsius, whereas the silicone products are able to accommodate continuous temperatures of up to 225° Celsius. EPDM can also endure temperatures as low as -55° Celsius, with the silicone range allowing for temperatures down to -74° Celsius.

Q. WHAT MATERIAL SHOULD I USE IF I HAVE A STOVE OR A CHIMNEY PIPE?

A. In any case that high temperatures are a concern, please refer to our Material Specification Charts to see which version of Master Flash® is needed. It is best to confirm the minimum and maximum temperature range of the pipe with the stove or chimney manufacturer to ensure no problems.

Any applications with temperatures that consistently stay above -55° Celsius and only intermittently reach up to 135° Celsius should be able to use an EPDM Master Flash®. Locations that need to reach as low as -74° Celsius and are intermittently capable of temperatures of 250° Celsius will need a silicone product to withstand these extremes.

Instances where the temperature goes above or below these maximums should not employ Master Flash® products.

Q. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GREY AND BLACK EPDM?

A. There is a slight difference between these two products, although both are suitable for most applications. The black EPDM has a charcoal content, which makes it conductive and therefore suitable for a wide range of situations. This is the most common choice in the UK market. In comparison tests to determine tensile strength, weathering hardness, and tear resistance, the black EPDM products proved slightly better than the grey, but the grey EPDM showed a marginal advantage in the elongation test. In most cases, the choice between the two is purely aesthetic.

Q. WHAT IF I CAN'T REACH THE TOP OF THE PENETRATION OR SLIDE SOMETHING DOWN THE PIPE?

A. In instances where sliding a flashing over the penetration is not possible, due to where it is situated or an obstruction, a Master Flash® Retrofit or a Master Flash® Multi-Flash product may be suitable. The Master Flash® Retrofit is an open product that can easily be wrapped around a pipe and then sealed shut. This range boasts three sizes and comes with plastic or stainless-steel bands and rivets to fasten it tightly. When these sizes are not suitable, the Master Flash® Multi-Flash range can be used in the same way. These products are the same as the Master Flash® Standard, though they have a deep grove down one side in order to guide a knife and become a Master Flash® Retrofit product. With a stainless-steel gripper, these can then be clamped together and ensure a tight seal.

Q. CAN I USE A FLASHING IF MY ROOF HAS A STEEP PITCH?

A. Yes. For extremely steep roofs, there is a product called Master Flash® Extreme Angle. With a built-in 40° pitch, this flashing can handle any extreme roof pitch from 35° to 65°, as well as accepting and responding to other commonly encountered pipe penetrations.

For less extreme, but still steep, pitches, most installers will use a flashing size above the one that they need. The excess material and larger base will allow for accommodation of the pitch, whilst still securing a watertight seal.

Q. HOW DO I SECURE MY FLASHING?

A. The Master Flash® Standard range operates a simple compression seal, meaning that it is watertight and immovable. Non-retrofit Master Flash® products should be cut 20-30% smaller than the pipe diameter to ensure a tight fit. The tension between the flashing and the pipe it is wrapping around provides the watertight compression seal and needs no extra sealant or clamping.

Some installers chose to add some sealant to the pipe anyway, particularly in areas of heavy snow or a lot of rain. Installation videos can be found at www.aztecmaster-flash.co.uk to show the correct way to secure all Master Flash® products.

The base of the flashing on all Master Flash® products is where the sealant and the fixings need to be. Sealant – such as a non-petrochemical based silicone – should be applied between the base of the product and the roof it is being attached to. Fasteners can then be applied, not exceeding a distance of 38mm between each piece.

Master Flash® Retrofits come with bands and rivets to fasten the flashing together when it is wrapped around the pipe. Sealant and fixings can then be applied in the same way as aforementioned, to the base of the flashing. Master Flash® Multi-Flash products are tightened with a stainless-steel gripper when used in their retrofit application and can be fastened to the roof in the same way as the Master Flash® Standard. Master Flash® Residentials are applied beneath roof tiles, which help to hold these in place. Sealant can be applied below the metal base where it touches the roof.

Fixing Kits can be purchased with Master Flash® flashings. These contain 6.3 x 25mm screws, caps, a drill bit, a instruction leaflet, and a tube of silicone.

Q. CAN I PAINT MY FLASHING?

A. Master Flash® products can be painted, but only with water-based paints. Please bear in mind that rubber flexes to conform to expansion and movement of pipes and, therefore, paint may chip and flake off the flashing.