Why Choose Asphalt (D226) Felt Over Synthetic

Underlayment

1. Proven History & Industry Acceptance

- Used reliably for decades with consistent performance.
- Meets ASTM D226 standards.
- Widely accepted by building codes and manufacturers.
- ASTM D226 Asphalt Saturated Roofing Felt was the “original” roofing underlayment
- The only non-adhered underlayment that is specified as “waterproof”
- The only 100% US made non-adhered underlayment
- The only US made non-adhered underlayment that meets and exceeds the LEED Post-consumer recycled standards

2. Cost Effectiveness

- Lower cost per square foot than most synthetic underlayments.
- Readily available with fewer supply chain markups.

3. Compatibility & Ease of Use

- Roofers are familiar with installation methods.
- ASTM D226 Asphalt Saturated Felt will not shrink under heat (which create tears at each fastening point) whereas most all synthetic underlayment’s have recycled material content that can shrink from 1.5% to over 15% in some cases)
- No special fasteners required—standard nails or staples work.

    This is especially critical in states (e.g., Arizona) that allow roofing staples since all synthetic underlayment’s tear under walking pressure due to the razor sharp staple shank

4. Breathability & Moisture Management

- Allows vapor permeability to reduce trapped moisture.
- Helpful in climates with limited ventilation.

5. Self-Sealing / Pliability Under Nail Penetration

- Has some self-sealing properties around fasteners.

- Helps reduce leak risks compared to some synthetics.

6. Weight & Temperature Behavior

- Heavier felt resists wind uplift and tearing.
- Performs well in cold weather without becoming brittle.

7. Roof Performance

- Properly applied ASTM D226 Roofing Felt offers a smooth and thick surface, masking roof imperfections due to its stiffness and surface
- Installation with roofing nails and staples eliminates surface irregularities such as plastic caps and tin tabs that can transfer through (or have raised surfaces) beneath the primary roofing material (like shingles and metal) which came create an irregular finished roof surface

Considerations / Potential Drawbacks

- Heavier and smaller rolls increase labor effort.
- Can tear more easily during handling or strong winds.
- Degrades faster with UV or moisture exposure if left uncovered.
- Absorbs moisture, which may cause wrinkling or mold risk.

Sample Messaging / Taglines

- “Traditional Strength, Budget wise Decision”
- “Trusted Protection with the Value You Can See”
- “Felt Underlayment: Time tested Performance, Affordable Price”
- “ASTM D226 Certified Felt—Dependable, Familiar, Cost Effective”