Do I have to remove the old sealant when sealing my roof vents?

This can be a tricky question. If you know what type of sealant was used on the prior application and you wash the sealant with some type of cleaner (SD 20 or similar). Then follow that by wiping the sealant and surrounding area with alcohol you can reseal the vent without removing the old sealer.

The issues with doing that is that you will have a build up of sealant that does not look as neat and at some point you will have to remove more layers of sealant. Most people would not have an idea on sealant types that may have been used, and not all sealants adhere to one another. My suggestions would be to remove the old sealant first and then reapply a good exterior grade sealant with UV protection.



