

How to look after the roof on your home

Description

The roofs on our homes are often neglected. As we don't always look at them, we often forget that they're there. However, the roof is an essential part of any house as it keeps the elements out and protects what's inside the home. So, it must be looked after. Without it, the home, and everything in it, would be extremely exposed. Luckily, as homeowners we can do a few things to keep our roofs in tip-top condition to ensure they are doing as they should.

Inspect it

As with anything else in the home, to maintain it, you need to look at it; [roof inspection](#) is no different. An annual roof inspection will help identify any roofing concerns that need to be attended to. This is something that homeowners can do on their own but DIY projects have bottlenecks associated with them. Therefore, it's best to have a professional take up the task as they know exactly what to look for. The best [roofing contractor northern va](#) has to offer will be able to take one look at a roof and pinpoint any issues to determine if the roof needs any work. Although this can be done annually, it's also wise to have the roof inspected after any harsh weather like storms, twisters, or hurricanes.

Clean it

Roofs need cleaning. Over time, there can be a build-up of grime. This can come from weather debris, the seasons changing, or mother nature in the form of moss and ivy. Again, this can be done annually, and it's probably best to do it in the springtime, removing the autumn and winter debris. By cleaning the roof, you are protecting it from damage later on. Most of the time, when debris collects on the roof, it's usually in the form of leaves, moss, and general sludge. All of these hold water, which can cause dampness in the roof. Ultimately, this could lead to water damage and result in a hole. As there's usually a loft space between the roof and the last ceiling of the house, such damage often goes unnoticed until it becomes a major problem, requiring the services of a company like [Protegrity Restoration](#) to rectify the water damage that's occurred and a roofing company to either replace or repair the roof. Additionally, cleaning the roof can also deter any pests from making a home there. Pests also won't be able to burrow into the house as there will be no holes for them.

Replace damaged shingles

Shingles can get damaged for all kinds of reasons. Most of the time, they're just old and weathered, which causes them to break. When they break, they can cause cracks in the whole roof, or they can fall off completely, leaving part of the roof exposed. When that part of the roof is exposed, it's more likely to get holes, or the damage can spread as the elements can get under the shingles and lift them. Not only this, but it looks unappealing too and can negatively impact curb appeal and resale value of a property. Replacing damaged shingles as soon as they're noticed is important to keep the integrity of a roof.

Maintain the gutters

Gutters filter water from the roof, down the side of a home, and into drains. This stops water from pooling on the roof and causing water damage. However, over time, gutters can get blocked with all kinds of debris. Leaves and moss can fall from the roof, plus other kinds of waste can get trapped in there too. There have even been occasions where birds have made nests near gutter piping and sticks, and twigs have gotten stuck. Removing this debris will ensure water doesn't pool on the roof causing water damage. It's also important to ensure there are no cracks in the gutter that could lead to leaks elsewhere. If cleaning your gutters on your own sounds daunting (because it is!), let businesses like Clean Pro [Gutter Cleaning Seattle](#) do the dirty work for you. Then you get quality-cleaned gutters and extra time to do something else that you enjoy.

Sometimes it's best to get a professional to come and inspect a roof as well as make any repairs. This ensures everything is done properly and the roof is well looked after. A well-maintained roof should last for at least 15 years, however one that is not maintained may need a [roof replacement](#) sooner.

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