



How to Extend the Life of Your Roof

The best way to prevent your roof from breaking down prematurely is to regularly maintain it. Regular maintenance ensures that it will stay strong and keep your family safe, dry, and comfortable for many, many years. You won't have to worry about unexpected leaks springing up during a thunderstorm or mold secretly growing and spreading in your attic. Regular maintenance solves all of those nasty issues and more.

To regularly maintain your roof, here are a few things you should do at least once a year:

Inspect your gutters

Keep your gutters clear of leaves and debris. When wet, that extra clutter can weigh down your gutters causing them to pull away from your home and cause costly damage. Blocked gutters also mean that water may be overflowing and running down the exterior of your home. That increased water can erode the dirt that helps stabilize your foundation!

Inspect your attic

Walk around in your attic and look for any mold that may be beginning to grow in your attic. You may also look for damp or set spots that would be prone to mold growth as well. Should you find mold, contact a professional to have it removed.

Inspect your skylights

Regularly clean your skylights. With falling leaves and debris, they can stick to your skylights leaving scratches or even discoloring them. It's best to clear away any foreign objects and clean your skylights to avoid those problems and ensure that the skylight remains strong so that it may hold up to future storms.

Inspect the remainder of your roof

You've looked at both your attic and skylights. Once you're on your roof, take a walk around and inspect the rest of it. Make sure that chunks of shingles are not missing.

Remove debris

Clear away any large branches or debris that could affect the structural quality of your roof. Look at the flashing attached to your chimney; make sure it doesn't appear to be deteriorating. Also, take a moment to examine your vents and see if they're blocked or working properly.

Execute these few small tips, and you'll have a happy, healthy roof for many years to come.