Advanced Level ROOFING
YOUR LOCAL ROOFER

PRE-WINTER ROOF CHECKLIST

10 things to check before the snow flies

How to use this checklist: Tick each box as you go, on screen or on paper. Check the roof from the ground (binoculars help) and never climb up yourself. If you use a ladder, have someone spot you, and look into the attic from the hatch without stepping on the insulation.

01 ☐ Shingles

LOOK FOR Missing, cracked or curling shingles, and any bare patches you can spot from the ground.

WHY IT MATTERS Melting snow will find even a small gap and seep under the shingles all winter.

02 ☐ Granules

LOOK FOR Dark, gritty sediment in your eavestroughs or at the base of the downspouts.

WHY IT MATTERS Granules protect shingles from the sun. Heavy loss is a sign the roof is wearing out.

03 ☐ Ridge caps and edges

LOOK FOR Lifted, cracked or missing caps along the peak, and bent or loose metal at the eaves.

WHY IT MATTERS Ridges and edges take the worst of the wind, and winter gusts find anything loose.

04 ☐ Flashing and pipe boots

LOOK FOR Gaps, rust or lifted metal around chimneys, skylights and vents, and cracked rubber on pipe boots.

WHY IT MATTERS These are common leak spots, and meltwater will find them first.

05 ☐ Clear the eavestroughs

LOOK FOR Leaves, needles and other debris. Trim any branches hanging over the roof while you're at it.

WHY IT MATTERS A clogged eavestrough freezes solid and feeds ice dams along the roof edge.

06 ☐ Eavestrough fit and slope

LOOK FOR Eavestrough pulling away from the fascia, sagging sections, or leaking corners.

WHY IT MATTERS Water that can't drain freezes at the roof edge, so fix any sags before freeze-up.

07 ☐ Downspouts

LOOK FOR Connected, clear and draining 1.5 to 2 metres from the foundation. Add an extension if they're not.

WHY IT MATTERS Pooled meltwater by the foundation can freeze and seep into the basement.

08 ☐ Fascia and soffit

LOOK FOR Soft spots, peeling paint and dark stains. Make sure the soffit vents aren't blocked or painted over.

WHY IT MATTERS Soft fascia usually means a drainage problem, and blocked vents choke attic airflow.

09 ☐ Attic

LOOK FOR Daylight, damp or stained wood, rusty nail tips, flat or patchy insulation, or a musty smell.

WHY IT MATTERS Warm, moist air leaking into a cold attic is what causes frost, mould and ice dams.

10 ☐ Last winter's warning signs

LOOK FOR Ceiling stains, damp spots near exterior walls, or ice ridges and big icicles along the eaves.

WHY IT MATTERS Ice dams mean heat is escaping. The lasting fix is air sealing, insulation and ventilation.

Found something, or not sure what you're looking at?

FREE ESTIMATE

SATELLITE-BASED QUOTE

Where imagery is available, we'll put together a full written estimate at no cost.

REQUEST A FREE ESTIMATE ›

RECOMMENDED BEFORE WINTER

25-POINT INSPECTION

A full on-site inspection of your roof and attic, with a written report and photos. A fee applies.

CALL 1 (866) 334-3705 ›

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