

Winterize Your Roof in 6 Easy Steps

Seasons are changing and this is the perfect time to make sure your roof is in tip-top shape. Winter weather can be tough on roofs, so a little work on the front end pays for itself ten times over. Winterizing your roof isn't as complicated as it sounds. While you may need the help of a professional for a detailed examination, you can run through many of these steps yourself. Here's what we suggest:

1.Eyeball it.

Just start by giving your roof a good once over. It's best if you can get up on it to check it out, but if that isn't possible, check out as much as you can from the ground and use binoculars if you need to. You're looking for any signs of damage like loose or missing shingles.

2. Examine and clean your gutters.

Do the same with your gutters. Make sure there are no places where the gutters are separating from the home, that there are no cracks in the gutters themselves and that they are all there! Then you'll either need to climb the ladder or hire someone to clean them out. You need a good, clear gutter system to get through the winter.

3.Trim those limbs.

If you have tree limbs overhanging your roof, this is a smart time to get them trimmed. Heavy snow and ice quickly weigh them down and can cause breakage. If you're considering skipping this step, imagine them on top of your roof and picture the damage they could do. Yep, call the tree guy.

4. Take a trip to the attic.

Visit your attic for two reasons. First, make sure your vents are open. You want adequate ventilation to prevent moisture problems and vents allow this to happen. Second, look up and make sure there are no signs of leaks and moisture damage.

5. Check the ceilings.

It's also important to regularly be intentional about checking your ceilings for any signs of leaks. You're looking for water stains and wetness. If you find these, it's important to talk to your roofer as soon as possible.

6.Look for signs of pests.

Animals can really cause some serious roofing problems. Bird, squirrels, mice, raccoons and more might see your home as a great place to spend the winter. Do a thorough inspection to make sure there are no signs of entry or places where animals could take up residence and cause roof or other damage to your home.

If you have roofing questions, concerns or are in need of service, <u>call us</u>. Integrity Contracting and Remodeling has 25 years of experience and is ready to help you with your home improvement and remodeling project needs.