



1. You Can Do Roof Cleaning Yourself--But Don't Take the Decision to Lightly

DIY roof cleaning certainly exists, and with the proper methods, tools, and cleaning products, an able homeowner can do an adequate job. But before you decide that this is your preferred method, make sure you look at all the facts.

- When you're purchasing cleaning products, find a company you know you can trust to buy from. Look for a company that supplies multiple formulas and also offers preventative solutions.
- Remember: there's no easy way to get your roof cleaned. Set aside at least a full afternoon, and be ready to work no matter what sort of cleaners you've bought for the job.
- If you use the right chemicals, proper procedures, and rinsing techniques, you can count on the chemicals not doing any damage to your shingles or your landscape.

2. Roof Algae Is Much More Than an Aesthetic Concern

Sure - having algae on your roof is an unattractive attribute. However, it's more than that, and it's not something you can put off taking care of.

Here's the thing: roof algae is a living thing, and it's feeding off of your shingles (actually, it's feeding off of a limestone filler commonly used in shingle production). If it's not taken care of, it will take years off of the life of your roofing.

If your roof isn't cleaned regularly, especially if the algae is visibly noticeable, it can lead to rapid deterioration of your shingles, which has a few effects:

- Since your shingles help block UV rays, you'll drop in your home's energy efficiency and steep rise in your AC bills.
- You'll have to replace your roofing much sooner than you should need to, and that can cost upwards of \$10,000.

While we were on the subject...

3. Roof Cleaning Is Not an Overpriced Service

On the contrary, roofing contractors typically charge a fair price, especially considering the aforementioned cost of roof replacements. Roof cleaning typically runs about \$200-800, and the average cost is about \$476. Considering the importance of the service, plus the amount you'll end up spending without it, it's well worth the cost of hiring a professional if you choose not to do it on your own.



4. Even If You Can't See the Algae, You May Still Need a Cleaning

In its earliest stages of development, algae is completely invisible. So even if your roof appears to be okay, there's a chance that the best time to have it cleaned is now. This is one of the reasons that professional roofers recommend you have a roof inspection around once every three years--the earlier you're able to catch the problem, the better it is for your roofing.

Many homeowners may decide to spot clean their roof, but algae could be effecting your entire roof even it's only visible in spots. It's always a good idea to take preventative measures, and to have a cleaning be as thorough as possible when it is done.