

# Do's and Don'ts of Cleaning Your Gutters

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Regular gutter cleaning is an important aspect of home maintenance that can prevent damage to your roof, walls, foundation and beyond. ***Depending on your location and proximity to falling leaves and other debris, you may need to clean your gutters several times each year.*** Homeowners who have installed gutter guards will have less frequent gutter maintenance requirements, but small objects can still pass through the guards and warrant occasional cleaning.

***Learning how to safely and properly clean your gutters can make a huge difference in the long-term care of your home,*** but if you are not comfortable climbing a ladder or would just appreciate a little extra help around your house, the professionals at [Vertex Roofing](#) are ready to answer your call.

## Gutter Cleaning Do's

- **Start with a sturdy ladder on solid footing.** Inspect your ladder to ensure that all steps are solid, and ***make sure that the legs are resting on firm, flat ground every time you reposition them.*** Use plywood as a base if the ground is soggy.
- **Clean your gutters no less than once per year.** If you frequently notice many leaves on your roof, ***you may have to clean your gutters as often as three times per year.***
- **Remove gutter debris by hand and/or with a small broom.** With gloved hands, ***carefully and completely remove any leaves, stones, sticks, etc.*** A handheld broom may also be helpful after the larger pieces are removed. If needed, remove gutter guards before cleaning beneath them.
- **Keep your eyes open for sections of gutter in need of repair.** Gutters that are ***sagging or hanging may be easily fixable before they develop into a larger problem*** that can cost you thousands of dollars in damage.

- **Make sure your gutters are clean before winter's chill sets in.** Waiting until you have ice in your gutters is not a good time to clean out debris; *leaves also tend to allow ice to build up in the gutters, making damage to your home much more likely.*

## Gutter Cleaning Don'ts

- **Don't create a habitat for pests.** Clogged gutters are *the perfect environment for harboring mosquitos and other insects*, rodents, mold and more.
- **Don't put off gutter cleaning for another season.** Gutters are there to protect your home from water damage, but *when regular maintenance is ignored, they can no longer serve their intended purpose.*
- **Don't trust gutter guards to do all the work for you.** Installing gutter guards will undoubtedly reduce the frequency of required cleaning sessions, but *nothing can keep smaller particles like flowers and pine needles from accumulating inside.*
- **Don't lean your ladder against the gutters themselves.** The extra weight can result in gutter damage.
- **Don't forget to check all the connections within your gutter system.** Downspouts, leader pipes, fasteners and more should all be *properly connected and provide free movement of water* to adequately protect your home.
- **Don't do anything you feel uncomfortable with.** If you feel unsafe climbing a ladder, *call a professional* to help you complete your gutter cleaning job.

## Professional Roofing and Gutter Services in the Salt Lake City Area

Residents of the Salt Lake City Area who are looking for a little extra help around their home may appreciate the professional services offered through Vertex Roofing. We provide free bids on [our services](#) and the expert eyes of our technicians are well practiced in spotting problem while they are small and [easily repaired](#). By scheduling a bi-annual [roofing inspection](#), you'll have *peace of mind knowing you are taking proactive steps to keep your roof* in excellent condition for many years to come. Give us a call today at (801) 934-1528 or [fill out our online contact form](#) for a prompt response from a member of our team.