

The Ultimate Gutter Maintenance Checklist

Keeping your gutters clean and in top shape is essential to protecting your home from water damage. This guide provides a seasonal checklist and practical advice on when to DIY vs. hire a professional.

Seasonal Gutter Maintenance Checklist

Spring

- ☐ Inspect gutters for winter damage or loose brackets.
- ☐ Remove leftover debris like twigs & leaves.
- ☐ Check for leaks and seal with gutter caulk if needed.
- ☐ Ensure downspouts are clear & direct water away from the foundation.

Summer

- ☐ Trim nearby trees to prevent clogging during storms.
- ☐ Flush gutters with a garden hose to test flow.
- ☐ Look for sagging areas or standing water that indicates poor drainage.
- ☐ Make sure splash blocks & extensions are secure.

Fall

- ☐ Clean out fallen leaves & debris before winter snow hits.
- ☐ Check seams & joints for separation or rust.
- ☐ Install gutter guards if needed to reduce future maintenance.
- ☐ Inspect roof edges for shingle granules that might clog gutters.

Winter

- ☐ Remove ice dams or heavy snow buildup (carefully).
- ☐ Inspect for icicles that may indicate poor insulation or ventilation.
- ☐ Check for sagging gutters from snow weight.
- ☐ Ensure downspouts are not frozen or blocked.

When to DIY vs. Hire a Pro

✓ *DIY When:*

- ☐ You're comfortable working on a ladder & have proper safety equipment.
- ☐ Your gutters are single-story & easy to access.
- ☐ There's only light debris or buildup.
- ☐ You have the tools—gloves, scoop, hose, & sealant—for basic cleaning & repairs.

👷 *Hire a Pro When:*

- ☐ Your home has multiple stories or steep rooflines.
- ☐ You notice leaks, rust, or significant damage to the gutter system.
- ☐ There's mold, mildew, or water pooling near the foundation.
- ☐ You want a thorough inspection or preventative maintenance service.

