

A Homeowner's Guide to Gutter Cleaning & Repair

A homeowner checklist for Gutter Cleaning and Repair

Safety & Preparation

- Check weather forecast for a dry, calm day.
- Set up your extension ladder on firm, level ground.
- Use a ladder stabilizer to brace it on the roof, not the gutter.
- Wear heavy-duty work gloves and non-slip footwear.
- Have two buckets ready: one for debris, one for tools.
- Place a tarp on the ground below to catch falling gunk.

Gutter Channel Cleaning

- Start cleaning at the downspout and work your way out.
- Use a gutter scoop or trowel to remove large debris.
- Put all debris directly into your bucket; don't throw it on the ground.
- Move the ladder frequently instead of overreaching.
- Scoop out all visible leaves, needles, twigs, and moss.

Downspout & Flushing

- Use a garden hose to flush remaining grit toward the downspout.
- Confirm that water flows freely out of the downspout bottom.
- If water backs up, the downspout is clogged.
- Try to clear downspout blockage with a direct blast from the hose.
- Check for any leaks at gutter seams as you flush with water.

Final Review

- Look for any areas of standing water in the clean gutter.
- Visually check for cracks, holes, or separated seams.
- Check that gutter spikes or hangers are securely fastened to the fascia board.
- Look at the fascia board for any signs of peeling paint or soft wood.
- Photograph any potential issues for future reference or professional review.

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