

# Calculating the Cost of REPLACING A ROOF



DISCLAIMER: Helpful resources







## **Chapter 1: Understanding Roofing Costs**

- **Roof Repair vs. Replacement:** When assessing costs, the first step is to determine if your roofing project is a repair (fixing specific damages) or a full replacement (new roofing materials over the entire roof).
  - *Repairs*: Focused on specific issues like leaks, damaged shingles, or fascia replacement.
  - *Replacements*: A more significant investment, where the entire roof is redone.
- Key Factors Affecting Cost:
  - Size of Roof: Larger roofs cost more to repair or replace.
  - Material Type: Asphalt shingles are generally cheaper than metal or tile roofing.
  - **Labor & Location**: Rates vary by region; in places like Michigan or Troy, costs can differ from national averages.

## Chapter 2: Common Roofing Repairs & Their Costs

## 1. Fascia Board Replacement

- Fascia boards are the horizontal boards that run along the edge of your roof, holding the gutters. When damaged, they need replacing.
  - Average Cost: \$5-\$10 per linear foot (including labor and materials).
  - o **DIY Option**

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## Chapter 1: Understanding Roofing Costs (use our calculator here)

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## **Roof Health Checkup Checklist**

## Inspecting Your Roof: What to Look For

Use this checklist to evaluate the health of your roof and identify any potential issues that may need repair or replacement. Regular roof inspections can save you money by catching small problems before they become major headaches.

## **Exterior Roof Inspection**

## 1. Shingles

- Check for missing, cracked, or curling shingles.
  - *Tip*: If over 10% of the shingles are damaged, consider a professional assessment for replacement.
- **V** Look for **granule loss** on asphalt shingles.
  - *Tip*: Excessive granule loss (found in gutters or around your home) is a sign of aging shingles.

## 2. Flashing & Seals

- Inspect the flashing around chimneys, vents, and skylights.
  - Tip: Flashing should be intact and free of rust or peeling.
- Z Ensure that **roof seals** around pipes and vents are not cracked or missing.

## 3. Gutters & Downspouts

- **C**lean out **gutters and downspouts** of any leaves, debris, and roofing granules.
  - *Tip*: Blocked gutters can lead to water pooling and potential roof damage.
- Check that the **gutters are securely attached** and not pulling away from the fascia board.

## 4. Fascia & Soffits

• Z Examine the fascia boards for signs of rot, peeling paint, or damage.



• Check **soffits** (under-roof eaves) for signs of mold, mildew, or animal nests.

#### 5. Roof Surface

- **V** Look for any **sagging or dipping areas** on the roof.
  - *Tip*: Sagging could indicate structural damage and should be inspected by a professional.
- Inspect for **moss, mold, or algae growth** on the roof surface.
  - *Tip*: Moss and algae can trap moisture and degrade roofing materials over time.

#### 6. Roof Valleys & Ridges

- Sensure that the valleys (where roof slopes meet) are clear of debris.
  - *Tip*: Valleys are susceptible to leaks, so they should be properly sealed.
- Check that the ridges (top peaks of the roof) are straight and have no signs of cracking.

#### **Interior Roof Inspection**

#### 1. Attic or Crawl Space

- **V** Look for leaks or water stains on the attic ceiling or walls.
  - *Tip*: Dark spots, mold, or mildew can be signs of a roof leak.
- **Check for proper ventilation**.
  - *Tip*: A well-ventilated attic prevents moisture build-up and extends roof life.
- Z Examine insulation for dampness or mold.
  - *Tip*: Damp insulation could be a sign of a roof leak.

## 2. Sunlight Penetration

- **V** During the day, **look for any sunlight coming through the roof** boards.
  - *Tip*: Sunlight means holes or cracks that should be sealed immediately.

## **General Maintenance Tips**



#### **1. Schedule Regular Inspections**

Inspect your roof **twice a year** (Spring and Fall) and after severe weather events.

#### 2. Trim Overhanging Branches

- **V** Trim back trees and branches that are close to or touch your roof.
  - *Tip*: Overhanging branches can damage shingles and create a pathway for pests.

#### 3. Clean & Maintain Gutters

• **Clean gutters and downspouts** regularly to ensure proper drainage.

#### 4. Monitor for Ice Dams (in Cold Climates)

- **V** During winter, **watch for ice build-up on the roof's edge**, known as ice dams.
  - *Tip*: Ice dams can cause water to back up under shingles, leading to leaks.

#### **Roof Health Scorecard**

Use this simple scoring system to determine the overall health of your roof.

- 0-5 Issues Found: Z Excellent Condition Minimal repairs needed.
- 6-10 Issues Found: <u>A</u> Moderate Condition Schedule minor repairs and routine maintenance.
- **11+ Issues Found: Poor Condition** Consider a professional inspection for repair or replacement.

#### **Take Action**

If you identify any issues during your inspection, prioritize repairs based on urgency:

- 1. Leaks & Structural Damage Immediate professional attention required.
- 2. Damaged Shingles or Flashing Repair or replace before the next severe weather season.
- 3. Gutter & Fascia Maintenance Clean, repair, or replace as needed.

By regularly checking and maintaining your roof, you can prevent small issues from becoming major, costly repairs and extend the lifespan of your roofing materials.



This checklist will be helpful for homeowners to conduct self-inspections and make informed decisions on roof maintenance and repairs. Let me know if you would like to customize it further!

40

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