



# LEGENDARY GUIDE TO ROOFING

**LEGENDS**  
ROOFING

“Not Just Your Typical Roofing Company”

 985-603-8472

 [www.legendicroofs.com](http://www.legendicroofs.com)

 [info@legendicroofs.com](mailto:info@legendicroofs.com)

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# Introduction

We at Legends Roofing decided to write this book because we found a huge need in the market for roofing education. We know this is not something most homeowners do very often, so they aren't overly familiar with the process since most homeowners will only buy two or three roofs in their lifetime. We would like to cover the basics so everyone can navigate this process more easily. Our goal is to help you determine whether you need a roof replacement or just a repair, how to pick the best roofing materials, what to look for when hiring a roofing company, and how to get the best value and cost of the replacement or repair. Legends Roofing is confident this book will help every homeowner make an educated and more informed decision. Because let's just be honest, this industry has a bad rap for a reason. We want homeowners to be satisfied at the end of their roof repair, because we know they deserve more for their hard-earned money.

Legends Roofing wants homeowners to know exactly what to expect and that there will be no surprises. Some roofing contractors/companies take advantage of homeowners who do not know the ins and outs of the business. Since they know customers won't have a need to replace the roof being installed for the next 20-25 years, the service side of the business often is not there for the customer. In the process of writing this book, we got a job where a previous roofer threw up another layer of shingles right on top of the existing ones. We caught this early on during the inspection and of course, this homeowner can't get in touch with anyone from the company. Chances are, they aren't calling back because they are either out of business or no longer in the area. Roofing is a tough business, so often companies come and go. Mastering the technical aspect of installing a roof is only half of the equation. Legends Roofing strives to go above and beyond for our customers by creating a consistent process that is streamlined from start to finish.

We take pride in our customer service, knowing our service doesn't end after the installation. Our number one goal is for homeowners to be satisfied at the end of the process so they will be more willing to refer us to friends and family.

# How do I know if my roof needs a repair or to be replaced?

This chapter will discuss some of the key reasons homeowners need to start the process of looking into repairing or replacing their roofs.

**Leaks** - Leaks are the most obvious and expedient reason to repair or replace your roof. Of course, a leak can be temporarily addressed, but this should never be considered a long-term fix. A leak left unrepaired can cause widespread and extensive damage. The first sign that the roof has a puncture or break in it, is when a homeowner sees a water spot on their ceiling from a leak and the need for a roof repair ratchets up significantly. Most homeowners will try to remedy this with a bucket in the attic, but that should not be considered a long-term fix to the problem. The expediency rises because while the bucket will catch dripping water, there will be seepage through additional water and moisture getting underneath the shingles doing unseen and extensive damage. The boarding or decking under the shingles will begin to deteriorate, rot, and ultimately cause a secondary concern of mold and mildew. Water by nature, will find its way into your home, and a strong roof is your home's best defense.

**Age** - The age of a roof is another primary reason for replacing a roof. An asphalt shingle roof, typically on most American homes, should have a life span of approximately 20 – 25 years. An asphalt shingle is made up of tiny granules which resemble tiny rocks. Over time, a shingle will begin to lose those granules. Certain areas of your roof will start to look shiny and/or you may find these granules in your gutter or around the perimeter of your home. Loss of granules and/or a shiny roof is a sign that the roofing shingles are no longer able to do their job in protecting your home. Leaving your home vulnerable to incumbent weather can eventually compromise the structural integrity of your home. Other roofing materials will also show signs of wear and tear over time. When in doubt, a roof inspection is always a good idea.

# How do I know if my roof needs a repair or to be replaced?

**Missing Shingles** - Missing shingles will eventually lead to leaks. Finding a shingle around the perimeter of your home is a tell-tale sign to have your roof professionally inspected. This cannot be stated enough, missing shingles left unrepaired can eventually lead to leaks and a home will require more than just a standard roof repair.

**Lifted Shingles** - Lifted Shingles can occur for various reasons including a windstorm or hurricane. When the flaps of the shingles are no longer lying flat, this is the first sign that water could be making its way underneath the raised shingles. This certainly is a sign that a roof inspection is needed.

**Hail & Wind Damage** - Hail and wind damage to a roof should always be inspected. Certain areas of the shingles will be more eroded than others based on the direction and impact of the wind or hail. This damage will also mimic the look of an aged roof in loose granules and shiny areas.

**Energy Efficiency** - Energy Efficiency is becoming more prevalent among homeowners. Factors such as energy costs and environmental impact are growing concerns. Newer roofs will often offer better insulation with reflective coatings for energy efficiency, thereby reducing and lowering heating and cooling costs over time.

**Home Value** - Home Value can increase, especially when considering having a new roof installed on your home. A new roof can increase the home's value and appeal to buyers if planning to sell a home soon. Another value in replacing a roof is the potential for lower insurance premiums.

# How do I know if my roof needs a repair or to be replaced?

**Vegetation** - Vegetation hanging over a roof is a common problem that rapidly ages a roof. Falling leaves, branches, and other debris should be routinely cleared before they can cause extreme wear and tear on the roof. Left on a roof, vegetation can compromise the integrity of the roofing shingles; this includes mold, mildew, and/or algae. Any form of vegetation will accumulate moisture and when left to sit, moisture will rot these areas. It is important to cut back these limbs and branches regularly and remove and clean any debris on your roof.

**Living On The Gulf Coast** - Gulf Coast roofs will experience more humidity, moisture, and extreme weather conditions. This will age the roof at a faster rate. Some roofing manufacturers claim their shingles have a 30-year life span, sometimes up to 40 years. These estimates are often based on the shingles being installed in controlled and ideal conditions. There is a huge difference between a roof in the Gulf Coast and a roof in Arizona. The Gulf Coast often has heavy rains and hurricanes that severely impact the integrity of roofs. This, along with extreme heat and dramatic temperature fluctuations also wreak havoc on roofs. Realistically, a Gulf Coast customer can expect to get approximately 20 years out of a roof.



# Roofing materials

There are several types of roofing materials commonly used in construction. Some roofing materials are chosen for strength and some for aesthetics.



**Asphalt Shingles** are the most commonly used shingles in North America. These shingles are the most affordable and the easiest to install. These come in a wide variety of colors and styles. Asphalt shingles are made of a fiberglass mat with asphalt, mineral fillers, and a mix of crushed rocks or granules. This combination is what gives the shingles different colors and/or patterns and durability. The asphalt serves as a water-shedding agent while the mineral fillers increase the asphalt's resistance to fire and also aid in weathering.

The most common option is the 3-tab shingle. The 3-tab shingle consists of a single layer with cutouts, also called tabs, that create the appearance of three separate shingles. These are available in a wide range of colors and styles. When comparing asphalt shingles to all other roofing materials, they don't score as high. Mainly because asphalt shingles don't hold up as well when dealing with high winds, and often can be blown up one at a time or by an entire section. However, it still is the most common roofing option. An upgrade to the basic 3-tab shingle is the architectural shingle which offers newer technology and improved quality overall. An architectural shingle, also known as laminate or dimensional shingle, will mimic the look of natural materials. This roof option will give a textured appearance of synthetic slate, clay, wood, rubber, and/or composite materials made from a mix of plastics and rubber.

# Roofing materials

These shingles are much lighter in weight while offering an affordable option and still giving an increase in durability and wind resistance. Depending on where you live along the Gulf Coast, these newer architectural shingles may be required to pass code and insurance requirements. While a basic 3-tab shingle may not meet the newer insurance requirements for a roof replacement.

**Metal Roofing** has long been a homeowner favorite. A metal roof is durable and long-lasting with a life span of 40-70 years or longer. Offered in a wide variety of durable materials, ranging from steel and aluminum to copper or zinc and available in a wide variety of colors. Along the Gulf Coast, as extreme weather concerns rise, a metal roof can withstand radiant summer heat and winds of up to 140mph. The reflective nature of metal offers lower cooling costs. Other features include impact resistant (meaning hail up to 2" in diameter), fire resistant, and last but not least, able to be recycled. Metal roofs offer an eco-friendly alternative to the over 12 billion square feet of shingles that end up in landfills. Even though the cost of a metal roof can rise to almost twice the price of a shingled roof, the extra value they add is worth considering.

**Wood Shingles** and Wood Shakes are typically made of cedar. Wood shingles and shakes offer a natural look and give excellent insulation properties. They often require additional maintenance and regular inspection.

**Clay and Concrete Tiles** are popular in Mediterranean and Spanish-style architecture. They are durable and offer good fire resistance. However, they are heavier, more expensive, and require extensive structural and foundational support systems.

**Slate roofing** is highly durable and has a distinctive appearance. It is resistant to fire, mold, and insects, but it is also heavy and expensive. This roof requires extensive structural and foundational requirements due to its weight.

# Roofing materials

Fortified roofs are an enhanced roofing alternative designed to endure harsh environmental conditions and potential hazards with increased resilience. A fortified roof has stronger edges, a sealed roof deck, better roof deck attachment systems, and impact-resistant shingles. The use of these robust materials combined with strategic construction methods helps mitigate the risks from natural disasters like hurricanes, tornadoes, or heavy rains. This type of roof was designed to provide greater protection to a home and its occupants by ensuring prolonged structural integrity and safety. When considering this option, be sure to contact Legends Roofing to discuss incentives and grant programs available.

Homeowners should be aware that some roofing companies receive incentives in the form of rebates or discounts for the roofing materials they sell. Every homeowner should be able to choose the brand of shingle that is installed on their roof. Legends Roofing does recommend the use of a select group of materials based on performance, cost, and our experience. However, if any customer wants a particular brand, we will install it, with no problem.

Choosing the right roofing material depends on various factors such as climate, budget, durability, and aesthetic preferences. Legends Roofing will inspect and analyze your situation which will help us make the best recommendation possible and help you determine the best options for your specific needs.



# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

The following are the key steps that a homeowner should expect when hiring a roofing contractor/company. The right hire will ensure a smooth and successful roofing project that meets all your needs and budget.

**Initial Consultation:** This appointment is the first time the homeowner comes face to face with the roofing contractor or a representative of the contractor/company. Every homeowner should get a feel for how the job will go based on this interaction. During this visit, the representative should thoroughly inspect the current condition of your roof, assess any damage or areas needing repair, and discuss the homeowner's preferences and requirements. This consultation is crucial to both the roofing contractor/company and the homeowner, as it allows both parties to understand the scope of work involved and discuss an accurate estimate. It is not unheard of for a company to ask you to sign a contract at this initial consultation. A homeowner should never sign a contract without fully vetting the company or understanding the full scope of what they are signing. Be aware that if a contract is signed at the initial consultation, this is a binding contract, and you will be required to use that roofing contractor/company. A disreputable roofing company can push hard for signed contracts and build a backlog of work, then take their sweet time getting around to all their contracted jobs. They are not obligated to repair your roof in a timely manner. Homeowners should feel 100% comfortable with who they are working with. Make sure you can trust the roofing contractor/company and are confident with who you are choosing. Roof repairs or replacements are not cheap and saving a few hundred dollars isn't worth the headache, time delays, or bad experience of a wrong hire.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

**Detailed Estimate:** A reputable roofer will give you a detailed, written estimate. This should outline all aspects of the project, including the cost of materials, labor charges, any permits required, and a projected timeline for completion. The estimate should be clear and transparent, ensuring you understand what is included and any potential additional costs that may arise. It is common for some bids to have a significant price difference. It's important to compare each of the individual pricing factors rather than just the bottom line alone. This is important since the quality of materials varies, as well as other items such as labor charges or additional fees. However, if you receive an estimate that is much lower than other bids, it should throw up a red flag. A deceptive practice for some roofing companies is to submit a substantially lower bid, knowing they can add additional fees and/or change the pricing later. Legends Roofing discusses and explains in advance to every homeowner, that the roof decking, which is a large portion of a roofing job, cannot be fully assessed without removing all of the shingles. Because the roof decking is under the shingles and not visible, as a rule of thumb, you should plan on an additional 5 to 10 percent added to the estimate for unforeseen costs. One thing we always do at Legends Roofing is to include two free sheets of roof decking to reduce unforeseen costs for our customers.

**Insurance and Licensing:** Homeowners should ensure that the roofing contractor/company being considered is properly licensed and insured to protect themselves from liability. Never consider a roofing contractor/company that is not fully licensed and insured. Asking for verifiable general liability and workman's comp proof during the initial consultation is acceptable. Homeowners should also verify the active status of each of these types of insurance. This is a Certificate of Insurance commonly referred to as COI.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

Heaven forbid something bad should happen on the job site, your homeowner's insurance is not going to cover that accident. Any money saved by hiring an unlicensed and/or uninsured roofer is never worth the risk exposure. The State of Louisiana does not require a license specific to roofing. However, by law, Louisiana does require all roofing contractors/companies to have either a handyman's license, a residential construction license, or a commercial construction license. The easiest license to acquire and the most inexpensive to obtain is a handyman's license. This license is a basic, introductory license for when a contractor/company gets started. Approximately 90% of all roofing companies in Louisiana only have this license. We like to refer to these inexperienced start-ups as "Chuck in a Truck." They bought a truck and a ladder with a handyman's license to start a roofing business. Established roofing companies should upgrade to an actual residential or commercial license for construction. Residential and commercial construction licenses require tests and also cost more money to maintain. Roofing companies that have a residential and/or commercial license have obviously gone the extra mile to qualify for and obtain this non generic license. Homeowners can easily verify which license a roofing contractor/company has by checking the Louisiana State Board of Contractors and searching by individual and/or company name. [LSLBC.louisiana.gov](http://LSLBC.louisiana.gov) is a resource for online contractor searches. It will outline the type of license(s) and classification of the license(s) the contractor/company has. This site will list all active license(s) as well as the effective date, the expiration date, and the first date of issue of each license. Legends Roofing encourages homeowners to do their due diligence before hiring a roofing company.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

**Contract Signing and Deposit:** Once you've reviewed the written estimate and you're satisfied with the terms, you'll be asked to sign a contract with the roofer. The contract should be detailed and include specifics such as the scope of work, specific materials to be used, clean-up or disposal fees, transportation costs, permit information, starting and completion dates, payment schedule, including deposit requirements, as well as any warranties or guarantees offered by the roofer. Review the contract carefully before signing and ask any questions or concerns you have in order to avoid misunderstandings later. Only consider signing a contract when a roofing company has met the initial consultation, the detailed written estimate, and shown proof of insurance and licenses. Most likely, you will be asked to pay a deposit. The amount of the deposit will vary among companies. Homeowners can expect between a 20% - 40% deposit.

**Homeowners should never sign a contract to receive an inspection. Only when a roofing company has met all the following criteria should a homeowner sign a contract: an initial consultation, a detailed estimate, and confirmed the company's insurance and licenses.**

**Work Process and Communication:** During the roofing project, you can expect the roofer to adhere to a structured work process. This includes: arriving on time, following safety protocols, and maintaining a clean and organized work area. Depending on the size and complexity of the job, the roofer may provide updates on progress and also inform you of any unexpected issues that arise. Clear communication throughout the project helps ensure that both parties are informed, and all concerns are addressed promptly.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

**Completion and Inspection:** Once the roofing project is finished, the roofing company should conduct a final inspection and take the time to walk through the project with you. This allows you to review the completed workmanship and ensure it meets your expectations. This is the time when any homeowner's concerns, minor adjustments, and/or touch-ups can all be addressed during this inspection. Upon satisfactory completion, you should expect to sign off on the project. To ensure our homeowners have a full view of their newly finished roof, Legends Roofing flies a drone for the homeowner to be able to clearly see all of the work that's been done. Every homeowner will receive a comprehensive execution report along with the final invoice. We include all of the photos taken during the stages of the project. Upon completion, Legends Roofing will include the final invoice, the execution report with photos, and a signed contract for them to have documented proof of the work that was done so you can conveniently share it with your insurance company.

**Warranty and Guarantee:** A reputable roofer typically offers a warranty on their workmanship. This ensures the homeowner that if any issues arise due to faulty installation or materials, they will be corrected at no additional cost to them within a specified period. Additionally, some roofing materials also come with manufacturer warranties that the roofer should pass on to you. Clarify the details of these warranties before work begins.

**Payment:** Payment terms should be clearly outlined in the contract. Homeowners should avoid paying the full amount upfront. Instead, there should be an agreed-upon payment schedule that aligns with the project and timing milestones. This ensures that both parties are protected throughout the process.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

Payment should be contingent upon the homeowner's satisfactory completion of the agreed-upon work. Some roofing companies offer financing, this is often through third-party companies. With insurance deductibles for wind and hail increasing along the Gulf Coast, this becomes an additional benefit and convenience for homeowners. These [financing programs](#) often allow a homeowner to finance their deductible or the cash price if they are not going through their insurance.

**Insurance:** Working with an insurance company for roof replacement or repairs follows a different process. Be aware, if a roofing company offers to pay your deductible for you, run for the hills! Both you and the roofing contractor/company would be committing fraud. Since most homeowners rarely have a roof replacement, having to navigate it with insurance requirements and stipulations can seem even more daunting. A common question is "How does the payment system work with my insurance company?" Every homeowner who has a roof replacement through their insurance company should be more concerned that the company they choose can provide them with the paperwork required by the insurance company. In conjunction with giving them the best job rather than be concerned with the lowest price. Every homeowner should pick who they are most comfortable working with. When multiple bids are required by an insurance company, the homeowner can still get involved and have a say in which company performs the job. Most insurance companies will issue an initial check that amounts to what they deem to be an actual cash value. This figure is based on a lot of variables set by the insurance company. This check is intended to help the homeowner hire the roofing contractor/company to get the work started.

# What to expect when hiring a roofing contractor or roofing company?

Your roofing company should be able to aid you in getting all of the documentation your insurance company requires to issue a second check. The second check will be the remaining amount of the cost of the roof less your deductible. As stated before, sometimes there is an increase between the estimated roof cost and the final cost. This is where working with an established roofing contractor/company will be more valuable. This cost increase will need to be clearly outlined with documentation of why additional money was necessary. Insurance payments are invoice driven rather than estimate driven.

**Follow-up and Customer Satisfaction:** A professional roofer should follow up with you after the project is completed to ensure your satisfaction. They may request feedback on their services and address any concerns you may have. This demonstrates their commitment to their quality workmanship and customer service.

**It cannot be overstated: Any roofing company offering to pay your deductible is committing fraud.**



# How to choose a roofing contractor or roofing company.

There are a lot of roofing contractors/ companies out there, this chapter will cover some of the ways they vary. Choosing a roofer is one of the most important decisions you will make for your home and roof. The products described in Chapter 2 are available for any contractor to use on your home. The biggest difference between roofing companies ultimately is the crew that will be performing the work. If every roof were made the same, this would not be an issue. Having an expert and knowledgeable crew is crucial because there is no cookie-cutter approach to working on the vastly different roofs in the market.

Roofing companies will either have a crew that is hired and employed by the company, or a crew that is made up of subcontracted workers. With a subcontracted crew, there could be more inconsistencies in the installation of a roof. Often times it's difficult for the company hiring a contract worker to know if they have had the same training. This could increase the likelihood that the homeowner may have an issue with the roof after the fact. We require all crews that we hire to be qualified to meet Legends Roofing high standards. The Legends Roofing crew has all been trained and coached to do every job and task exactly the same way, or as we like to say, "The Legends Roofing Way." We know exactly which crew member works on each job and this allows us to know the job will get done right the first time. A roofing contractor/company that submits an estimated bid should be able to sell the job based on the work a crew is trained to do.

Professionalism should be considered and is important when working on a roof. Because most homeowners don't regularly get on their roofs to see or inspect them, they must rely on the roofer they hire to be honest, trustworthy, as well as an expert in the field. A homeowner should be able to trust the roofing contractor/company to address any and all hidden problems found during the inspection and/or job.

# How to choose a roofing contractor or roofing company.

The roofer you hire will need to have the expertise and technical knowledge that is required to work on complex systems such as ventilation, installation, and waterproofing. This roofer will also need to navigate legal compliance with permits and building codes as well as assist you with legal documentation for insurance and warranty requirements. Legends Roofing prides itself on taking extra steps to provide every homeowner with clear communication, customer service, and detailed documentation during every step. They will also include extensive inspections, estimates clearly discussed, and photos of the work in progress. As well as answering all questions and concerns throughout the whole process.

Reviews and referrals are the make or break of every consumer-driven industry. Every homeowner can search the Google Business Profile to check the reviews of a roofing contractor/company, as well as check with their local [Better Business Bureau](#). If a roofing contractor/company doesn't have favorable reviews, that's a red flag. Social media is another online review forum to check. Many times homeowners will get on social media to ask if anyone has a referral or has had experience with the roofing company they are considering. Let's face it, referrals are a great gauge of customer service as well as the quality of the job performance. A customer who's had a stellar or poor experience will tell a friend and be able to describe the reasons why they had that positive or negative experience. Real Estate agents are another great resource. Real Estate agents work with a lot of roofers during the inspections that are required for every sale of a home. This is why local and established roofing companies that rely on word-of-mouth and repeat business are always a solid choice.

# How to choose a roofing contractor or roofing company.

Storm Chaser roofers, while seemingly offering quick solutions in the aftermath of severe weather events, often go on to cause more headaches to homeowners and communities. These storm-chasing contractors swoop into storm-ravaged areas, capitalizing on the desperation and urgency of affected residents. They move aggressively from door to door with high-pressured sales tactics, coercing vulnerable homeowners into making hasty decisions about repairs without proper inspections or due diligence on the roofing contractor. Requiring homeowners to sign contracts and then taking their sweet time getting back around to do the work knowing the homeowner is bound to only work with them. The immediate need for a roof repair or replacement can cause customers to make decisions based on fear rather than an informed choice, often resulting in unnecessary or overpriced repairs. These are just a few of the potentially long-term consequences of hiring these fly-by-night operators. One of the primary reasons to avoid these storm chasers is their lack of accountability after they complete a job. The work is often hastily done with subpar workmanship, and they are off, moving on to the next disaster-stricken area. Homeowners are left with little recourse if a problem is found later. Because these contractors don't stay in one area long term, this means they have no stake in maintaining customer service or a positive reputation within the community. Often times, storm chasers frequently operate without proper licensing, insurance, or adherence to local building codes, putting homeowners at significant risk. Their work may not meet local standards, potentially leading to failed inspections, voided warranties, or even legal issues when they are long gone and not returning phone calls. To make matters worse, they prioritize quick profits over lasting repairs, using cheap materials or skipping steps. Storm chasers are also known for engaging in fraudulent practices, such as intentionally damaging roofs to inflate insurance claims or taking large deposits for work they never intend to complete.

# How to choose a roofing contractor or roofing company.

Additionally, these contractors may lack the expertise to identify and address underlying issues, focusing solely on visible damage and leaving hidden problems untreated. This shortsighted approach can lead to more severe and costly issues in the future. The influx of storm chasers into a community can also negatively impact local roofing businesses, undercutting their prices and taking away work that could support the local economy. When problems inevitably arise from the storm chasers' shady workmanship, it's often these local companies that are left to clean up the mess, further straining their resources. In essence, while storm chaser roofers may offer a quick fix, their presence in a community often leaves a trail of substandard repairs, financial losses, and frustrated homeowners.

The apparent convenience they provide is far outweighed by the risks and long-term costs associated with their work. Homeowners are invariably better served by partnering with reputable, local roofing contractors who have a vested interest in their community, adhere to proper business practices, and stand behind their work with warranties and ongoing support.



# Understanding roof-aging factors

Louisiana's subtropical climate is characterized by long, hot summers, mild winters, and abundant rainfall year-round. While this climate has many benefits, it also presents some unique challenges for homeowners when it comes to roof maintenance.

The primary factors that contribute to accelerated roof aging in Louisiana include:

**Intense Sun Exposure:** Louisiana experiences high levels of UV radiation. This intense sun exposure can cause roofing materials to deteriorate more rapidly than in milder climates. Shingles may become brittle and crack, leading to a higher risk of leaks and water damage. The extreme heat can cause roofing materials to expand and contract repeatedly, weakening their structural integrity over time. Resulting in warping, curling, or even the splitting of shingles. In some cases, this can cause the oils and resins in asphalt shingles to evaporate, shortening the roof's lifespan. Prolonged exposure can also break down the adhesive that holds shingles in place, increasing the risk of blow-offs during high winds. Intense sunlight can fade the color of roofing materials, affecting the home's aesthetic appeal and potentially reducing its energy efficiency by absorbing more heat. UV rays play a significant role in the gradual deterioration of asphalt roofs.



# Understanding roof-aging factors

**High Humidity and Moisture:** The Gulf Coast region is known for its high humidity levels, which can lead to the growth of mold, mildew, and algae on roofs. This moisture-rich environment also increases the risk of roof rot and premature aging of roofing materials. Regular cleaning and preventative maintenance are required to combat the growth of these organisms. Mold, mildew, and algae thrive in damp, shaded areas and can quickly colonize roofing materials if left unchecked. The damage to your roof being constantly damp can lead to premature deterioration of shingles as well as trap moisture underneath the shingles and potentially cause rot to roof decking or supporting structures. Moreover, the presence of these organisms can void warranties on some roofing materials. Manufacturers may argue that the growth of algae, moss, or mold constitutes neglect, potentially leaving homeowners without coverage for warranty replacements or repairs.

**Frequent Heavy Rainfall:** Louisiana is prone to heavy, frequent rainfall, including the occasional tropical storm or hurricane. During heavy rains, roofs face the risk of water infiltration, especially if there are pre-existing weak points or damaged areas. The sheer volume of water can overwhelm gutters and drainage systems, leading to pooling on flat roofs or water backing up under shingles on sloped roofs. This excess water can seep into the underlayment and eventually, the roof deck, causing rot and weakening the overall structure. In hurricane conditions, roofs must contend with both intense rainfall and extreme wind forces. High winds can lift and remove shingles, tiles, or even entire sections of roofing material. Flying debris carried by hurricane-force winds can puncture or damage roofing materials, creating entry points for water. The combination of wind and rain can force water into tiny cracks or gaps that might otherwise remain watertight under normal conditions. The constant exposure to water can wear down roofing materials, leading to leaks, water damage, and structural issues if left unaddressed.

# Understanding roof-aging factors

**Temperature Fluctuations:** While Louisiana's winters are generally mild, the state still experiences significant temperature fluctuations throughout the year. As temperatures rise, roofing materials expand; when temperatures drop, they contract. This constant cycle of expansion and contraction can cause materials to weaken over time, leading to cracks, splits, or separation at seams and joints. Shingles are particularly vulnerable to these temperature changes. Extreme heat can cause them to become brittle and crack, while severe cold can make them inflexible and prone to breaking when stressed. This damage can create entry points for water, leading to leaks and further deterioration. Metal roofing components, such as flashing, can be particularly susceptible to temperature-related expansion and contraction.

These temperature fluctuations can cause fasteners to loosen or pull out over time, compromising the roof's ability to keep water out. The stress caused by these temperature changes can also accelerate the aging process of roofing materials, potentially shortening their lifespan and necessitating more frequent repairs or earlier replacement.

Regular and professional inspections are important to catch and address issues early.



# Proactive maintenance tips

To combat these roof-aging factors and extend the lifespan of your roof, it's essential to implement a proactive maintenance routine. Here are some key tips to consider:

**Regular Roof Inspections:** Scheduling a roof inspection with a qualified professional will identify any potential issues before they become major problems. They can identify hidden issues that may not be apparent to the untrained eye, catching problems before they become severe.

By catching problems in their infancy, you can address them before they escalate into major repairs and significantly extend the lifespan of your roof. They can spot signs of wear and tear, such as missing or damaged shingles, clogged gutters, and signs of moisture intrusion.

A professional will give you expert repair recommendations and ensure that any necessary work is done correctly and efficiently. This will ultimately save you time and money in the long run. A roof inspector will visually inspect your roof from the ground and on the roof. As well as inspect inside your attic and the underside of your roof.

They will be checking for signs of daylight peeking through or water damage such as dark spots, mold, or sagging areas. If it has been a few years since your roof has been inspected, it's time to call an expert to thoroughly assess the condition of your roof.

**Timely Roof Cleaning:** Regularly cleaning your roof can help remove the buildup of dirt, debris, and organic growth that can accelerate aging. These organisms can retain moisture on your roof, leading to premature deterioration of roofing materials.

# Proactive maintenance tips

Mold and algae growth on roofs can potentially lead to air quality issues inside the home. Use a soft-bristle brush and a mild, roof-safe cleaning solution to gently scrub away any moss, mildew, or algae.

A clean roof is less likely to attract pests. Accumulated debris can provide nesting materials and shelter for insects and small animals.

Having your roof cleaned also reduces the amount of debris that ends up in your gutters. This helps maintain proper water drainage and reduces the frequency of gutter cleaning. Some roofing material warranties may be voided if the roof is not properly maintained, including regular cleaning. Timely cleaning helps ensure you remain compliant with warranty terms. This one preventative measure can save the homeowner significant money in the long run.

**Proper Ventilation:** Ensuring your roof has adequate ventilation is crucial in the Gulf Coast's humid climate. Proper ventilation helps regulate temperature and moisture levels, preventing issues like roof rot. Good ventilation improves the life of your shingles by reducing heat buildup during the summer months. When a roof can breathe properly, this helps prevent moisture buildup in the attic, which can lead to mold growth, wood rot, and other structural issues. During your regular roof inspections, check for any blocked or damaged vents, including ridge vents, soffit vents, and gable vents.

Ensure they are clear of debris and functioning properly. If your home lacks adequate ventilation, consider upgrading to a more efficient ventilation system, such as installing additional vents or a powered attic fan. Overall, proper ventilation improves your home's energy efficiency by reducing the workload on your HVAC system, potentially leading to lower energy bills.

# Proactive maintenance tips

**Roof Coating Application:** Applying a roof coating can significantly extend the life of your roof by providing an additional layer of protection against the elements. Look for coatings specifically formulated for the Gulf Coast's climate, which is characterized by high humidity, intense sun exposure, and frequent rainfall. These specialized coatings can help reflect UV rays, reducing the roof's surface temperature and potentially lowering cooling costs. They also act as a barrier against moisture-related damage, which is crucial in humid climates prone to heavy rains.

Roof coatings can be applied to various roofing materials, including metal. The application process is generally less disruptive and more cost effective than a full roof replacement, making it an attractive option for extending roof life.

**Timely Roof Repairs:** Don't wait until a small issue becomes a major problem. These small issues, if left unattended, can quickly escalate into major problems that compromise the integrity of the entire roofing system. Address any roof repairs, such as replacing missing or damaged shingles, sealing leaks, or fixing flashing as soon as they are identified. Prompt repairs can prevent further deterioration and extend the overall lifespan of your roof.

Regular inspections, especially after severe weather events, can help identify issues early when they are easier and less costly to address.

**Roof Replacement Considerations:** While proper maintenance can extend the life of your roof, eventually, all roofs will need to be replaced. When the time comes, consider upgrading to a roofing material that is better suited for our southern climate, such as a fortified roof, metal or impact-resistant asphalt shingles.

# Proactive maintenance tips

Legends Roofing is familiar with the Gulf Coast's climate and building requirements which can help ensure you choose the most appropriate roofing system for your specific needs and location.

**Cleaning Gutters and Downspouts:** Clogged gutters and downspouts can lead to water buildup, which can cause significant damage to your roof, siding, and foundation. Clear all debris that has accumulated, then flush the gutter using a garden hose.

Start at one end and work your way towards the downspouts, ensuring the water flows freely. Check that the downspouts are clear of clogs and obstructions. If necessary, use a plumber's snake or a high- pressure water hose to clear any blockages.

Finally, check for any loose or sagging gutters and secure them with new hangers or brackets as needed.

By following these essential [roof maintenance tips](#), you can help extend the lifespan of your roof, prevent costly repairs, and ensure the safety and comfort of your home for years to come. Remember, regular inspections and prompt attention to any issues are key to keeping your roof in top shape.



# Letter from Legends Roofing

Legends Roofing started when Taylor Braud saw a need for better service to homeowners because of the inconsistency he noticed in roofing companies. Taylor was in the construction business for 18 years building custom homes. He would notice that the roofing company crews were rarely the same ones twice. Often times, the roof being sold to the homeowner didn't match the one installed. Legend's Roofing was born. Making the company goal to provide top-notch customer service while installing a quality roof. Legends Roofing pushes hard for consistency in all aspects of the roofing process. We will fully discuss the entire job with the homeowner ahead of the installation. We will not perform extra work or features we have not previously discussed.



## Taylor & David

*Owners - Legends Roofing*

Every installer has been trained in the Legends Roofing way. Our promise to the homeowner is we will do exactly what we say we will, and should we run into an unexpected problem or cost, the homeowner will be notified before new work or costs are incurred. No surprises.

Efficiency is another area Legends Roofing takes pride in standing out amongst competitors. We start the job and finish in a timely manner and on schedule. Our homeowners know that when we start the job, all permits have been approved and we have everything in place to finish as we have promised. Permits are required for every job, and Legends Roofing makes that as efficient as possible.

# Letter from Legends Roofing

Innovation is another area Legends Roofing is always looking to improve a homeowner's roofing experience. A huge concern to homeowners is what happens to the old nails that come off the roof during a roof replacement. Legends Roofing installs a large fabric mesh that catches them. There are thousands of nails on any given roof. Legends Roofing wants to catch them all, so you can rest easy knowing your kids or your pets are going to be safe walking in the yard. It's a little step that can make the whole experience much more pleasant for the homeowner and we feel it is worth it.

Legends Roofing also uses drones to photograph the work that is happening out of your line of sight. We provide each homeowner with detailed execution reports containing ariel photos of the work happening. This is helpful to the homeowner as well as their insurance company. Legends Roofing is always experimenting with new ways we can make the roofing process better and give the most value to our customers.

We hope you will consider Legends Roofing for all your roofing needs.



 985-603-8472

 [www.legendsroofs.com](http://www.legendsroofs.com)

 [info@legendsroofs.com](mailto:info@legendsroofs.com)