

Ensure longer lasting looks with COLORBOND® steel

Home improvements maintenance guide



Safety first

Any work you do around your home with a ladder, especially on guttering, requires care. Basic precautions will make your maintenance safe and easy.

- Be aware of hazards around your home, such as power lines, and take necessary precautions.
- Use a sturdy ladder or a platform placed on flat stable ground. Likewise, it is safer to get down and move the ladder across instead of leaning over beyond the footprint of the ladder.
- Guttering can contain all types of debris so wear thick protective gloves.
- A non-slip mat over the guttering will stop your ladder from scratching it.

Inspect regularly

Inspecting and maintaining your COLORBOND® steel installation should be done at least every six months – the end of autumn and spring are usually good times. In some locations, more frequent maintenance may be required due to local factors such as overhanging trees.

After installation, regularly check for the build-up of debris on all surfaces. If cleaning is needed, say after four months, then that would be your regular maintenance period. Talk to your local handyman if you are unable to check or clean the guttering yourself.

What to look for

During your first inspection, look for any loose metal debris that may have been left behind after installation. Subsequent inspections should:

- Look for any build-up of dirt and salt deposits on the underside of roofing, guttering, posts and beams. Also look for deposits around joins, brackets, rivets and screws.
- Look for a build-up of debris on the top surface of the roof and inside the guttering (especially the high end), such as leaf matter, dirt and possibly fungus.

Maintenance procedure

- Use a stiff, soft bristled brush to sweep debris into a pile (do not use hand shovels or other hard tools). Be careful not to scratch or damage the COLORBOND® steel.

- Place debris into a bucket or similar and lower to the ground.
- Wash down the underside of the patio roof, beams, posts and the inside of the gutter with fresh water from a garden hose.
- To remove significant fungal growth, see BlueScope Steel Technical Bulletin Identification of Fungus in the Field and Recommendations for its Removal TB 27.
- To remove stubborn stains and dirt (such as areas above a BBQ), wash the surface with a mild solution of pure soap or non-abrasive dishwashing kitchen detergent in warm water, immediately followed by rinsing with clean fresh water. See BlueScope Steel Technical Bulletin TB-4 'Maintenance of COLORBOND® steel Roofing' for further advice.

Note: If you use detergent, disconnect any water tanks connected to the relevant gutters.

- Maintenance must be undertaken in accordance with local government water restriction guidelines.

For technical support and information call 1800 022 999 or visit

colorbond.com

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