Eleven Questions You Need To Ask Before Investing In A Gutter Cover

For more in depth analysis for your own research go to: www.leafguards.com for a comprehensive list of questions



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Ask these questions before you even bother listening to a sales pitch.

Don't risk buying a product from a company that can't answer yes to all eleven questions.

About The Company:

- 1. Are you insured?
- (Demand a certificate of insurance from their insurance company.)
- 2. Do you have an exact business location?
- (No PO boxes or working out of your garage, basement or apartment.)
- 3. Are you free of complaints from the better business bureau or recommended by local chamber of commerce or other independent business organizations?
- 4. Can I reach the installing supervisor direct by cell phone?

About The Product:

1. Does the gutter cover get nailed or glued to my roofing?

You'll want to ask that very question when determining what gutter cover to invest in. Many companies do nail or glue their product to your roof, inevitably voiding your roof's warranty.

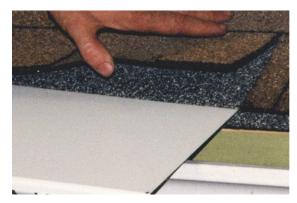


They use this means of attachment because they feel it is the only way to keep the product secure. What this really means is that wind forces are constantly stressing fasteners which eventually will work loose and could cause leakage into your home.

In addition, glue can cause the fibers of your roof to be stripped from the shingles if the system ever needs to be removed or replaced. Your roofer will not honor his warranty once your roof has been penetrated.

Waterloov® is never nailed or glued to your roof and in no way can ever contribute to roof leaks.

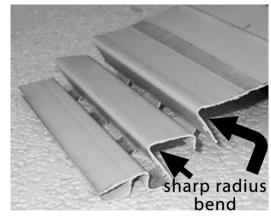
The front louvered edge of Waterloov® is hard fastened to the underside of the gutter lip with stainless steel screws and the rear flat edge is slid between the roof shingles.



2. Does it collect all the water in the heaviest of rain?

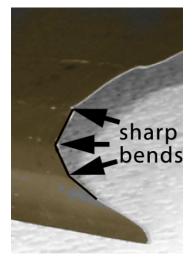
The ability for a product to collect water is a function of the radius bend

located on the front top portion of the gutter cover. This is where the water must follow the contour of the gutter cover going from the flat solid top into where the water is guided into the gutter. To understand this principle, the sharpest possible radius bend would be a right angle, like the edge of a desk, in which case the water would simply shoot off the edge. Some of the products in the marketplace today have a very



tight, small radius bend which in heavy downpours will cause the water to shoot off the roof.

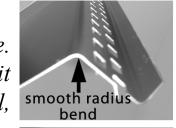
In fact, to overcome this problem, some of the products actually recommend that gutter covers be pretreated with tannic acid, also known as coffee.

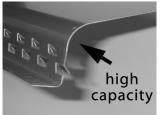


Then there are also some products that, even though they appear to have a large radius bend, upon close examination you will find a series of sharp angled bends. So rather than have the water make a gradual transition, the water will adhere to the surface as it maneuvers these angled bends.

What this means is that the tops of the gutter covers must be at precise angles in order to have the best chance in collecting water. To accomplish this often good, functional gutters must be replaced.

With Waterloov®, none of these concerns are ever an issue. Waterloov® has a smooth radius bend without any angles; it is large enough to accommodate the heaviest of rainfall, and for long rafter lengths (churches, industrial buildings, etc.) Waterloov® is the only company that manufactures a high capacity panel.





3. Does it have a way of limiting the size of debris that gets into my gutter?

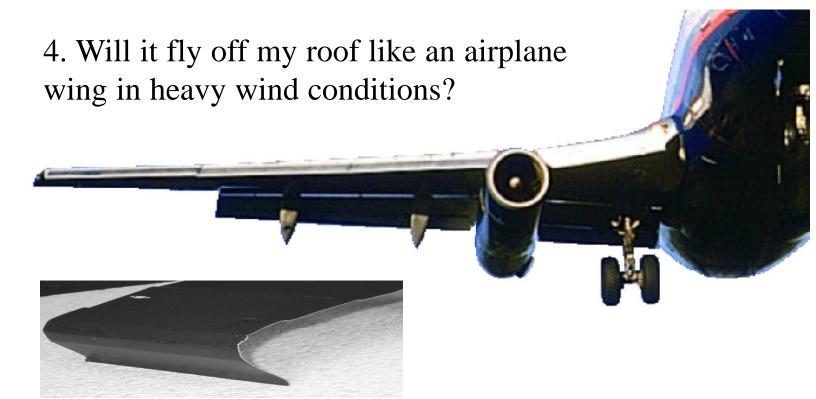
Most gutter covers work on the principle of using one longitudinal fin to collect water. Usually graphics that demonstrate the operation of the gutter cover show the water flowing at a high rate of speed into the gutter with leaves and debris being thrown to the ground.



This is the ideal representation of any gutter cover. The problem is that 80-85% of all rainfalls are much slower and the water never reaches high velocities. This means that leaves and debris will stick to the gutter cover surface just as the water does and be easily guided along causing a clog. So while these systems may be effective at first, they are often seriously flawed in wet conditions.



Waterloov® is the only patented system that interrupts the single longitudinal fin with louvers which limits the size of debris that can wash into the gutters to less than a ½ inch in length. No other system in the market place takes advantage in limiting size and debris.



If you look at the design of an airplane wing and compare it to many gutter covers you'll see a striking resemblance. Many gutter covers are aerodynamically designed even though they are not supposed to fly. In heavy wind conditions, such as a hurricane, many do take flight. If they are attached to the roof by fasteners then they are often ripped out leaving damage that will result in roof leakage.

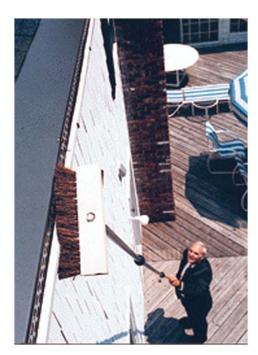
The Waterloov system, utilizing the louvered design, is not susceptible to flying off your roof in heavy wind conditions.



5. Does it require maintenance and can I do it myself or do I have to depend on someone else to maintain it?

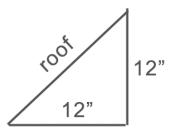
The answer to this often requires reading the fine print. The truth is, in heavy debris conditions every product in the marketplace will let clogs occur. Many of them, because of the longitudinal fin design, will pass sufficient debris to clog gutters inside. In this case you had either paid over \$20 per linear foot to have this product installed and the company is of the mind set, "For \$20 per foot I can afford to have a service man unclog it every couple of years." In which case you have not purchased a product with a performance guarantee, you have a company that you hope will be around. The second option is that you paid what looks like a bargain, but will find that there is small print on your agreement which will require you to pay an additional fee to have your gutters serviced whenever they clog. In both situations there's no warning or way of telling if your gutters are clogged until you see them overflowing, or find your basement flooded.

With Waterloov®, because it limits the size of the material that can get into the gutter, any clogging is visible on the outside. Experience has shown that gutters in the heaviest conditions never clog on the inside. The good news is that you are never dependent on a service man to clean your gutters. Waterloov® is the only patented system that can be cleaned from the ground using a telescopic pole and brush by the homeowner. We call this Suit and Tie Maintenance because it is not a dirty job and generally is done in less time than it would normally take to get your ladder out.



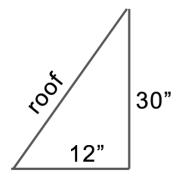
6. Can it be installed to all pitches of roofing?

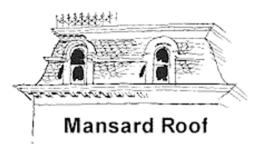
The pitch of your roofing is the steepness of it.



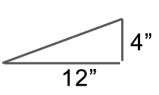
A roof that is designated 0 on 12 is a flat roof.

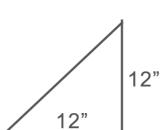
A roof at a 45 degree angle is 12 on 12.

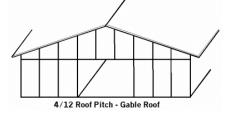




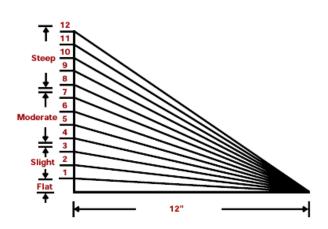
A very sharply pitched roof might be designated as 30 over 12.







Most gutter covers are only recommended for roof pitches between 4 on 12, (minimum), and 12 on 12, (maximum).



Waterloov® is the only system that is recommended for installations on all pitches from flat to mansard and anything in between.







7. Can the system collect valley water?

Where two roofs intersect in a roof valley, a large volume of water flows to a point. Because the new generation of gutter covers have solid tops, there are no collectors at this point to capture the water. Most gutter cover installers don't offer anything and the water simply over runs the inside corner. For some homeowners this may not be a problem. For others it can be a big problem, resulting in flooded walkways, flowerbeds, or basements. Some companies in an attempt to make gutter covers more effective use fence-like diverters, mounted usually in the roofing. Many problems can arise due to this including roof leakage, valley water over flowing to the ground, or clogged diverters.

Waterloov® is the only company that has pioneered valley water collection with several patented products. In situations where there is not a lot of tree debris an improved fence-like diverter is used, 4 to 10 inches of fence with diamond shaped openings to further distribute the water.

For small valleys we use a dome shaped diverter which causes the water to divert from the valley and the device has no edges to hold debris.

For larger valleys we have the award winning Valley $Fall^{\text{\tiny IM}}$ which is a specially designed and shaped panel that fits catty-corner in the valley and is inter-fitted with the Waterloov® gutter cover system so that the water coming from the valley is spread out across this one panel, collected, and dropped into the gutter below.



Fence like Diverter



Dome Diverter



Valley Fall