

Periodic inspections can help prevent leaky roofs

Your roof's not likely to leak if it's less than 15 years old and was applied properly. But you'd better be ready for trouble if it's older than that, especially if you live in very sunny climes.

The sun's heat does more damage to your roof, over the years, than wind and rain combined. Such damage — unchecked — can lead to minor leaks. These eventually may result in damage to the interior of your home, as well as to structural damage from moisture build-up.

You can prevent roof failures by making periodic inspections of your roof, according to the experts at the Certified Home Institute, Valley Forge, Pa.

First, check for the appearance of the minute ceramic granules (normally on the surface of asphalt shingles) in the downspouts or other areas where water drains from the roof. These help protect your roof from the sun's rays, but as the roof ages, they wash off.

Then, use binoculars to give you a bird's-eye view of what the roof looks like. Look for warped, cracked or missing shingles.

Whatever you do, don't walk on your roof even if you suspect trouble. It's too dangerous up there, especially since old shingles tend to break easily and can make footing treacherous. More than that, you may cause even greater injury to your roof by walking on it.

Once you've decided your roof needs attention, call a qualified roofing contractor. He'll help you evaluate the situation — giving you the benefit of his experience with repairing and replacing roofs in your area. Ask him to show you the wide color range of standard weight shingles (240 lb. per square) available.

There are also heavy-weight materials available today which offer style, texture, and added durability. These carry a limited warranty of up to 25 years against manufacturer's defects and cost only slightly more per year than standard weight products when cost is figured over their life-expectancy.

For more information on roofing and re-roofing, send for the booklet "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Roofing, Siding and Residential Insulation," written by Mort Waters, editor of "Family Handyman" magazine. It's available for 25¢ from the Home Institute, CertainTeed Products Corporation, Valley Forge, Pa. 19482. It'll give you more information than you ever wanted to know about your roof.

Upholstery maintenance

Upholstered furniture adds warmth and beauty to any home, and with some simple, basic care, it can stay attractive-looking for years.

Many people tend to overlook upholstered furniture during the course of their regular cleaning routine. This is an unfortunate mistake because, although the soil is not as readily visible, upholstered furniture collects just as much dust and grime as the tops of wood or even glass tables. Neglecting it allows gritty dirt particles to wear away and discolor the furniture's fabric — creating a stale odor in the process.

To maintain your upholstered furniture, vacuum it regularly using the appropriate attachment from your vacuum cleaner. Be sure to get into the seams and tufts where dust can build up.

Remove spots and spills as soon as possible. Spills usually sponge right up with a bit of water and a rubdown with a clean, dry cloth.

If you have down-stuffed cushions, use an upholstery brush instead of a vacuum to clean them. Vacuuming will pull the feathers through the fabric, and you'll have to spend hours plucking them out.

COME GARDENING with Doc Hartnoll



ROSES ARE JUNE'S GARDENING EFFORT

Last fall I wrote about the four All-America Rose Selections. The one catching my eye is the floribunda Cathedral. The long pointed buds open to large 15 to 18 petaled, slightly ruffled flowers of rich golden apricot. They gain a deep salmon tint as they mature. I feel the fully opened bloom displays bright golden stamens and greatly to its beauty. We fed heavily with Vigoro Rose Food and the continuous all summer bloom production was most rewarding.

Roses are borne in small clusters of from five to nine flowers, ideal for cutting and arranging.

America has large, bright salmon pink speed bouquet blooms. One thing we like about this cluster is its bloom production. It has flowers most of the summer.

The remainder, Seashell and Yankee Doodle, I wrote about of great length last fall. Both produce well.

ROSE CARE: All roses need attention to keep them free of insects and disease. They must be well fed and watered. I prefer to mulch my rose beds, and I've found that if using cocoa-bean-hulls at a thickness of three inches, black-spot is controlled. However, we have used the new Benlate System. Fungicide and Insecticide.

SPRING FLOWERING BULBS: They've given you the beauty of their bloom but now you have the foliage to contend with. Don't cut the foliage to the ground. Let it grow to produce or transplant in that area. Young plants can be planted between the bulbs, and will grow much better with the protection of the leaves. As the bulb foliage dies down, your transplants will take over the area.

Many readers have asked if they should dig up their spring flowering bulbs. I don't advocate this practice. In Canada we do not have ideal storage areas as in Holland. It does the bulb more harm than good being lifted each year. We've had bulbs in the ground for 15 years and still in bloom. They flourish well. We like to add a handful or so of Vigoro Bone Meal early in the fall. This supplements the food it has made up on its own and gives them an extra hit for the bloom production the following year. Some who have dug bulbs and stored them during summer say the bulbs produced some foliage the following year, but no flower. If the storage area became hot, the flower buds in the bulbs were cooked.

LAWNS: If your lawn browns out, spray the area with Sevin. This material is non-poisonous to humans, pets, birds and all non-insect life, but it controls grasshoppers, which are small red and black and hide in the foliage of grasses. They get nourishment by sucking plant juices above ground, thus leaving the grass dead in irregular patches. Other insects can cause the same conditions, such as the June Bug. The larvae known as the white grub consume the tender feeding roots of grasses. At the Vigoro Research Laboratories a combined Lawn Insect Control has been incorporated with Golden Vigoro and even if you don't have either of these "pests" in your lawn, it is a good plan to apply it.

MOWING LAWNS: Check your mowing height. Children's play areas should be allowed to grow, and be maintained at two inches or even more. The front lawn should be maintained at one and a half inches, delaware lawns, about one inch.

LIMA BEANS: The most popular bush Lima bean grown today is the famous Fordhook Lima Bean. They don't require a great deal of space to grow and produce an abundance of beans on short, bushy plants which require no staking.

Bush Lima beans are a worthwhile crop for the home gardener, since the beans are extra large, meaty and the kind to eat as "butter beans". Limas should be planted well after danger of frost, in a fertile soil preferably during a warm dry spell or the bean will rot. They require a longer growing season than regular green beans — about 75 days to harvest.

Planting should be in full sun with no shade in any part of the day. To get a good stand, the seeds can be sown close together — three inches apart — but thinned to nine inches apart, with two feet between rows.

During dry spells they should be watered heavily and some form of mulch such as straw or grass clippings is helpful.

The pleasure in growing is growing — to eat what you'd like when you'd like, and that, neighbours, is the enjoyment of gardening.

If you have any questions send them along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to me at the Garden Information Centre, 165 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3B8.

How high is your ceiling IQ? Start from the top and see!

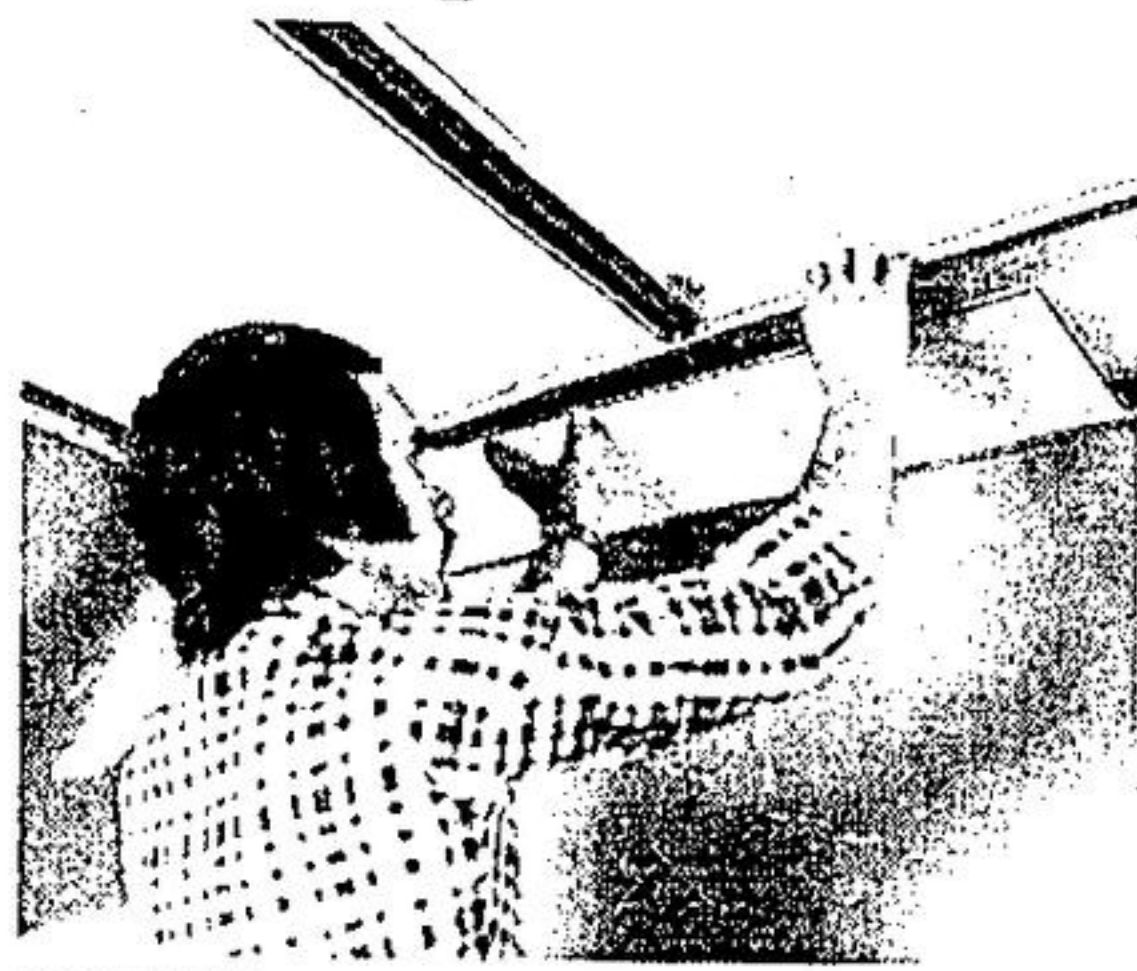
Technology has a way of replacing good with better, complicated with simple. And where the installation of tiled ceilings is concerned, technology has given us the best of both. Today, residential ceiling systems are not only easier to install, but produce a much more attractive finished surface.

Unless you've been in the market for a ceiling lately, you may not be aware of important recent developments. You should be, though, if you're planning to turn that basement into a much-needed recreation room, or intend to repair a damaged ceiling.

To test your "Ceiling IQ," take this quiz; you may be surprised at what you learn:

1. All suspended (lowered) ceilings show the metal gridwork which supports the tile. True or false?
2. When attaching a new tiled ceiling directly to an existing plaster or drywall surface, the original ceiling must be smooth and level. True or false?
3. Furring strips and furring channels are the same thing. True or false?
4. What special tools are needed to install a new tiled ceiling?
5. Most home handymen (and handymen) can install a 12' x 12' ceiling in less than a week end. True or false?

ANSWERS
1. False. Exposed grid ceilings remain popular, but where a more formal



INSTALLING A TILE CEILING is a lot faster and simpler now, thanks to new techniques like Armstrong's Intergrid System. Lightweight metal furring channels replace old fashioned wood strips — and instead of stapling the tile, you simply lock it into place with a cross tee that snaps onto the channel. No special tools are required.

look is desired with a lowered ceiling, Armstrong's Intergrid Suspension System is a good answer. Here all the supporting gridwork is concealed behind the tile.

2. False. In fact, that's one of the chief advantages of the Intergrid Furring Channel System. Leveling with shims and other devices is eliminated because the system levels itself.

3. False, again! Wood furring strips are becoming obsolete. Lightweight metal furring channels are a lot easier to handle since you use fewer of them, and they don't require extensive nailing. Also, you're assured of a permanently level ceiling because metal suspension

systems can't warp like wood.

4. None. Not even a staple gun is required to install today's new ceiling systems; ordinary household tools will do the job.

5. True.

If you scored five correct, congratulations; you're a veritable ceiling genius. Four means you're a working knowledge. Less than that means it might be a good idea to brush up on current ceiling information before you go out to shop.

For free literature on Armstrong, do-it-yourself ceilings, write to: Intergrid Ceilings, Armstrong Cork Company, Department C. D. K., Lancaster, Pa. 17604.

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