

MOSS ON ROOFS

Use this flowchart to choose the option that's right for you

PREVENTION

TREATMENT

Which type of roof do you have?

METAL

Congrats! You don't have to worry - metal roofs rarely have problems with moss.

COMPOSITE

Is re-roofing possible?

NO

Is your landscape shading the house?

YES

Trim the landscaping that shades your roof. Moss likes a moist environment and sun dries it out.

NO

Do you want to apply a substance?

NO

Hand-cleaning might be your best bet. At the first sign of moss, moisten it with water and remove it with a nylon or wire brush. Be gentle to avoid harming your composite shingles.

Baking soda prevents moss from growing. It will raise the pH of the roof, which moss doesn't like. Baking soda washes off easily, so more than one application may be needed each year.

Zinc-strips can be installed at the top of your roof to prevent moss from growing. As rain runs over the strips, zinc drips down your roof. Zinc is known to be toxic to fish and NCAP does not recommend this as a first option.

YES

Consider a **metal roof** - moss is rarely a problem with metal roofs and their lifetime cost is comparable to composite roofs.

Which type of roof do you have?

COMPOSITE

Do you want to use environmentally-gentle chemicals?

NO CHEMICALS

Try a low pressure **powerwash**. We recommend hiring a professional as too high of pressure can destroy your composite shingles.

Want to prevent moss from growing next time?

OF COURSE!

Wonderful! Preventing moss from growing on your roof is much easier than treating moss that is already there. Check out the **prevention** section to keep your roof moss-free.

OTHER

Try **powerwashing** your roof. Professionals can also provide this service if you don't want to get up on a slippery roof with high-pressure water.

YES

Products containing **d-limonene (citrus oil)** are effective at killing moss. Results are usually seen in 2-3 days. Or, try sprinkling **baking soda** on your roof. This method can take several weeks. Products containing **potassium salts of fatty acids** are also effective, but are known to be toxic to aquatic invertebrates.

Once dead, some moss will slough off naturally. You can brush off the rest with a wire or nylon brush.



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