

Maintenance & Care Guide

Keeping your gutters, soffit, and fascia working for the long run

Getting gutters installed is step one — keeping them working is step two. Aluminum is one of the lowest-maintenance exterior products you can put on a home, but "low maintenance" is not "no maintenance." This guide walks you through what to do, how often to do it, and when to call us instead of DIY.

Gutters

Your gutters move thousands of gallons of water away from your foundation every year. When they get blocked, water finds another way out — usually down the side of your house or into your soffit. The fix is simple: keep them clean.

Why it matters

A gutter packed with leaves and debris is no longer a gutter — it is a water trough that overflows behind your fascia, rots your wood, and dumps water at your foundation. We have replaced more soffit and fascia from clogged gutters than from any other cause.

How often

Twice a year is the baseline: once in late spring after the oak pollen drops, and once in late fall after the leaves come down. If you have oak, pine, or palm trees within 30 feet of your roofline, bump it up to four times a year. After any major storm, do a quick visual check from the ground.

How to clean them

1. Use a sturdy ladder on flat ground with a helper holding the base. Never lean a ladder against a gutter — lean it against the fascia or roof edge instead. Aluminum gutters dent.
2. Wear work gloves. Scoop debris by hand into a bucket hooked to the ladder. Drop it onto a tarp on the ground, not into your landscaping.
3. Once the bulk debris is out, flush the gutters with a garden hose starting at the end farthest from the downspout. Watch the water flow toward the downspout — if it pools, your pitch is off and you should call us.
4. Run the hose down each downspout until water flows freely out the bottom. If water backs up, the downspout is clogged. Tap the side of the downspout to dislodge debris, or use a plumber's snake from the bottom.
5. Check every gutter seam and end cap for drips while the water is running. Note anything wet that should not be wet — that is the spot to call us about.

Soffit & Fascia

Soffit is the panel under your roof overhang. Fascia is the board at the edge of the roof that the gutter mounts to. Both are aluminum on a JR One install, which means they will not rot — but they will get dirty, and dirt traps moisture and pollen.

Why it matters

Florida humidity, salt air, oak pollen, and afternoon storms add up to a film of grime that dulls the finish over time. Cleaning twice a year keeps the paint looking new and prevents algae and mildew from staining the panels.

How often

Twice a year is enough for most homes — once in spring and once in fall, ideally the same day you clean your gutters. Coastal homes or homes under heavy tree cover may need a third pass mid-summer.

How to clean them

1. Mix a bucket of warm water with a few drops of mild dish soap. Skip bleach, ammonia, and degreasers — they can damage the paint finish and void the manufacturer warranty.
2. Use a soft-bristle brush or microfiber pad on an extension pole. Start at the top and work your way down. Apply gentle pressure — aluminum is soft and a wire brush will scratch it permanently.
3. Rinse from the top down with a garden hose on a wide spray setting. Do not use a pressure washer — high pressure can dent panels, force water behind the soffit, and strip paint.
4. For mildew or algae spots, use a 3:1 water-to-white-vinegar solution and a soft brush. Rinse thoroughly afterward.
5. Check the soffit vents while you are up there. They should be clear of paint, debris, and bird nests. Blocked vents trap moisture in your attic.

Do not, under any circumstances: Power-wash aluminum gutters, soffit, or fascia. Use bleach, ammonia, paint thinner, or any caustic cleaner. Walk on a wet roof. Lean a ladder against the gutter itself. Climb above the second story without proper safety equipment. If any of these apply to what you are about to do, stop and call us.

When to call JR One: Water overflowing in any spot during a normal rain. Sagging or pulling away from the fascia. Visible rust streaks (almost always from a roofing nail above, not the gutter itself). Soffit panels coming loose or showing daylight from below. Any leak inside your eaves. Call (844) 444-3114 or email info@jronegutters.com — we are here for the life of your install.