How to Identify Hail Damage on Your Roof and Exterior

Hail damage is often subtle. Unlike wind damage, it rarely rips shingles off — it bruises and weakens them, which means problems can show up months later as leaks. Here's what to check.

On the Roof

- Random, scattered black marks or dark spots on shingles (impact marks)
- Soft, bruised spots — press gently; a healthy shingle feels firm, a hail-hit spot feels spongy
- Exposed fiberglass mat where granules have been knocked off
- Granules pooling in gutters, downspouts, or at the base of downspouts
- Cracked or split shingles, especially at the tabs

On Siding and Gutters

- Small dents or dings in vinyl, aluminum, or fiber cement siding
- Dented gutters, downspouts, or gutter guards
- Chipped paint or bare spots on trim and fascia boards

On Other Metal Surfaces

- Dented roof vents, flashing, or chimney caps
- Dented window screens, AC units, or mailboxes — often the easiest visible clue hail hit your property at all

A Quick Test

If your neighborhood had a hailstorm, check any exposed metal — mailboxes, car hoods, AC units. If those show dents, there's a strong chance your roof took a hit too, even if you can't see it from the ground.

Why It Matters

Hail damage doesn't always cause an immediate leak. It shortens the lifespan of the shingle and creates weak points that fail later — often after the insurance claim window has closed. Getting an inspection soon after a hailstorm protects your ability to file a claim.

Had recent hail in your area? Get a free inspection.

A trained inspector can spot hail bruising that's invisible to the untrained eye — don't wait for a leak to show up.

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