

Tips For Preventing Wind Damage to Your Home

You're used to feeling the breeze when you step outside. So, you may be wondering: are strong winds a big deal? The difference between mild and thunderstorm winds is significant. According to the National Severe Storms Laboratory, the destruction of thunderstorm gusts accounts for more than half of all structural damage in 48 states. It's also more common than tornado damage.

1. Protect Your Doors and Windows

If you live in an area that frequently experiences high winds, you should install aluminum or steel storm shutters on your windows and doors. You will be able to close these shutters quickly in case of an emergency.

2. Make Sure Your Shingles Are Secure

When strong gusts knock down your roof's shingles, it can make your home susceptible to rain damage. Even the slightest amount of rain can weaken your roof and lead to mold growth, which can further deteriorate your home's structure. Occasionally inspect your shingles to ensure none of them are loose. If you notice some of your shingles are wobbly, you can work with a roofer who can install nails and staples beneath the edges of your overlapping ones.

3. Don't Plant Trees Too Close to Your House

Although you want your yard to look green and lush, you should avoid planting too many trees because they can cause extensive damage when thunderstorms strike. We recommend planting a handful of trees away from your home, so if they fall, they won't break your roof. Generally, your trees should sit farther away from your house than the tree's height when it's fully grown.

4. Put Away Potential Projectiles

When strong gusts of wind hit, anything outdoors can become a projectile. Secure objects, such as patio furniture and grills, by bolting them down to your patio using straps and ground anchors. Alternatively, you can store them inside your shed or garage. Some homeowners store their shed inside their garage for added protection. If you live in a mobile home, you're more at risk of experiencing injuries. Even anchored mobile homes can suffer severe damage when winds gust over 100 mph.

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