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Q
A

During a recent downpour, our new roof leaked even though it's rained several times since it was installed and kept us dry. Did our new roof fail?

It's not unusual when the sky dumps sheets of rain in a short period of time, gutters and drains become overwhelmed and cannot empty out fast enough. You may also see this happen in city streets that flood when the storm drains fill up quickly.

Steep sloped roofs are water-shedding not waterproof so the layers of roofing are vulnerable to water intrusion with wind driven rain and/or large amounts of rain which can back up at valleys and roof penetrations if drainage isn't swift enough. Even low sloped roofs that are designed to be waterproof can become virtual swimming pools when the scuppers and drains are filled beyond their capacity. When this happens, water can rise past the clearance heights the flashings were designed for.

The good news is these types of weather conditions are occasional and in most cases not an indication of a failed roof system.

Questions? Email: Lisa@SprickRoofing.com

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