

Roof Rake 101 with SGI CANADA

Remove the snow from your roof so you can avoid the dreaded ice dam! An ice dam forms when snow melts and re-freezes, creating a ridge of ice that causes water to back up and leak into your home. The water can damage your ceilings, walls, insulation and floors. Use the rake to avoid a huge mess, damage to your property, dealing with an insurance claim, and the cost of your deductible.

► How do I use it?

1

Put together the telescopic handle.

2

Starting at the front, left hand corner of your roof – place your rake blade 2-4 feet up from the gutter, and pull down with a slight tug until you clear the gutter. Don't try to take off too much snow at once.

3

Shift to the right and repeat the process until you get to the end of the roof.

4

Once the first pass is done, go back where you started and repeat the process higher up if possible, clearing off 2-4 foot sections as you go. You may not be able to reach the peak to clear all the snow, but removing the majority of it is still effective.

5

Repeat for the other side of your roof, clearing off 2-4 foot sections, left to right.

► What else can I do to prevent damage?

Shovel snow about 6 feet away from the foundation of your home. Snow that builds up around the foundation could pool when melting, allowing water to seep into your basement.

► Stay safe!

If you think this activity might be too strenuous, consider hiring a professional snow removal service or ask a friend or family member to help. Be careful, and watch for any overhead power lines.