

Roof Stains – Update from previous article

First of all I don't want anyone climbing on their roof. Get your son, son-in-law or grandson to do this or hire a professional. This article is to help you understand the black streaks that seem to be crawling down the roof. Black mold stains on roof shingles have become common on houses in every price range and neighborhood. What causes roof shingles to streak? Many home owners are surprised to discover that the once clean asphalt roof shingles have been slowly covered with a form of roof mold or mildew that appears as a light discoloration and spreads down the roof toward the gutters. The black roof stains are caused by a form of algae that has been around for years, typically found in the woods on the north side of trees, or on exposed rocks; but now this black algae is termed a roof shingle algae because of the annoying discoloration on an asphalt shingle roof. The roof algae (*sometimes called a roof mildew or shingle mold*) actually feed on the crushed limestone that is present in shingles from most asphalt shingle roof manufacturers. The roof algae are spread by wind and animals from roof to roof and are almost impossible to prevent. If you clean your own roof shingles be prepared to set aside an afternoon, and get your ladder out. There is no magic bullet when it comes to roof cleaning, and you will at least need a ladder to get up to the level of the gutter. My back and hip is hurting just thinking about it. The closer you are to the roof stains, the better your roof stain removal products will work. So black stains on roofs can be removed, just choose a good roof cleaner product or contact your local roof cleaning professional and make your roof look better! The products below are sprayed on and then rinsed with a regular garden hose.

One of the products available on the web is **Roof Mold Cleaner OX**. Roof stains arise from colonies of roof algae and lichen growing on top of the black roof mold that produce compounds which that absorb a given wavelength of light to make it a certain color (typically black or dark green). **Roof Mold Cleaner OX** alters molecular structure of the black roof mold stain so that it no longer absorbs that color.

Essentially reducing the ability of the roof mold to reflect visible wavelengths of light, this has the effect

of reducing the appearance of the roof stain, at times making it colorless and appearing to vanish.

Another product is **Mold Armor Oxy-Mold**. The Mold Armor Oxy-Mold 2048 oz. Mildew Stain Cleaner is a dissolvable packet that mixes with water for a powerful solution that uses oxygen-enzyme technology to clean and deodorize mildew, mold and algae stains on decks, roofs, driveways and more. Another product is **Roof Mold Cleaner OX** basically oxidizes the staining elements of roof mold and roof stains, making them colorless. With the help of hydrogen peroxide, which changes the acidity level of organic matter, the **Roof Mold Cleaner OX attaches** itself to the roof mold stain and changes the roof mold

chemical makeup.



The product I used is **Roof Resolve**, available at www.roofresolve.com.

It is a powder you mix with water in your garden sprayer, wait fifteen minutes for the product to activate and then spray on the discoloration on your roof. That's it, leave the rest to the wind and rain. It worked pretty good on my roof but I have to do it again because I tried to do it without a ladder from the ground and I couldn't reach all the spots and I was so far away that the wind prevented me from getting the whole area. That said, I am happy with the results in the areas I did cover and

will spray it on again from a ladder against the gutter without actually going on the roof as soon as the weather gets warm.

Do not use regular chlorine bleach, these oxygen bleaches are made differently and are safe to use on your roof. That's if the stains bother you at all. Looking up hurts the neck and who can see that far and clear anyway.

<http://www.bellboatbob.com/fairwaysmaintenance.htm>