

# WARNING

## ROOFING SCAMS TORONTO 2026

A man knocks on your door, says he's a roofer working in your neighbourhood, that your roof looks old and you need a new one. The guy is personable, polite, and well versed in roofing matters and you might have noticed a missing shingle or two or have a small leak, so you ask him for a quotation. His brochure is professional and his many reviews are positive, but fake.

His price is in line with market conditions and having done your due diligence you decide that his company is reputable and sign a contract for roof replacement, even though he says you must pay a deposit with cash, which you do.

His roofing crew arrives and removes the existing roofing, but he then informs you that the roof boards and rafters of the shingled roof are rotten, as are the roof boards and joists of the flat roof (if you have one), all of which must be replaced. He sends you generic photographs of rotten boards and rafters and quotes a price to replace everything. I have seen the same pictures in similar situations.

The price is outrageous and you balk, whereupon he says that unless you pay in full, immediately, also in cash, he will pull his crew off the roof which will leave your property open to the elements, and it's going to rain tomorrow! Some people call this fraud, I call it Blackmail !, but reluctantly you pay up.

Sometimes the rafters are replaced, often not, often just patched up, the flat roof boards and joists not replaced and perhaps did not need replacement.

Subsequent to an inspection of the job, you realise that you have been had.

Your option is now limited to instigating a small claims action against the company, a circumstance which induces considerable stress, but ultimately fruitless after he changes the company name, the address, and disappears, only to surface shortly thereafter under a new company name.

HOW DO I AVOID THIS ?

BEFORE SIGNING A CONTRACT, GET YOUR ROOF INSPECTED, BUT NOT BY A ROOFER.

NEVER MAKE A VERBAL AGREEMENT

DO NOT HIRE ANYONE WHO HAS KNOCKED ON YOUR DOOR

NEVER PAY WITH CASH !

ALWAYS GET A WRITTEN CONTRACT.

GET THE WORK INSPECTED BEFORE YOU PAY THE ROOFER IN FULL