

5 Exterior Spots You're Probably Forgetting to Clean

When you clean your home, you probably focus on the areas you can see every day. You wash the floors, wipe the windows and clean the kitchen. But what about the parts of your home that sit outside and quietly collect dirt, dust, mould and grime?

Your home's exterior faces Melbourne's changing weather throughout the year. Rain, wind, dust, fallen leaves and moisture can leave dirt on surfaces that are easy to overlook. Some areas may look fine from the ground but can develop buildup over time.

Regular exterior cleaning services Melbourne can help keep these overlooked areas clean and protect your property from avoidable dirt and damage. However, knowing which spots need attention can also help you maintain your home between professional cleans.

Here are five exterior areas that many Melbourne homeowners forget to clean.

1. Eaves and Soffits

Eaves and soffits sit beneath the edge of your roof. Because they are above eye level, homeowners often forget about them during regular cleaning.

These areas can collect:

- Dust and dirt
- Cobwebs
- Leaves
- Bird droppings
- Mould and mildew
- Moisture-related grime

Over time, this buildup can make the exterior of your home look tired and neglected.

Why Do Eaves Get Dirty?

Eaves are exposed to outdoor air but receive less direct rain than many other surfaces. This means dust and grime can remain on them for longer.

Moisture can also create an environment where mould and mildew grow, especially around shaded sections of the property.

How Should You Clean Them?

Start by removing loose cobwebs and debris. For heavier dirt or mould, avoid using excessive pressure without knowing how the surface will react.

Professional [exterior cleaning services Melbourne](#) can assess the surface and choose an appropriate cleaning method. This is particularly useful for painted or delicate areas that could be damaged by aggressive cleaning.

2. Gutter Exteriors and Downpipes

Most homeowners remember to clean the inside of their gutters, especially before periods of heavy rain. However, the outside of the gutter and the downpipes can also become dirty.

The outer surface can develop:

- Dirt streaks
- Algae
- Mould
- Leaf stains
- Bird droppings
- General grime

Dirty gutters can stand out against an otherwise clean roof and exterior.

Why Are Downpipes Often Overlooked?

Downpipes run vertically along the outside of your home. They can collect dirt and develop dark marks over time.

Because they are narrow and often positioned in corners, they are easy to miss when cleaning.

Keep Your Drainage Areas Looking Clean

Clean gutters and downpipes can improve the overall appearance of your property. More importantly, keeping your gutters clear of debris helps rainwater flow properly.

If gutters are difficult to reach or require roof access, consider getting professional help rather than taking unnecessary risks.

3. Exterior Walls and Cladding

Your exterior walls are one of the largest visible parts of your property, but they are not always included in regular household cleaning.

Walls can slowly collect dust, pollution, cobwebs, mould and other organic growth.

You may not notice the change because the buildup happens gradually.

Look Closely at Shaded Walls

Walls that receive limited sunlight can stay damp for longer. This can encourage mould, mildew and algae growth.

Pay particular attention to:

- Walls behind trees
- Shaded side paths
- Areas near gardens
- Walls close to downpipes
- Sections with poor airflow

Don't Use the Same Method on Every Surface

Different exterior surfaces require different cleaning approaches.

Brick, rendered walls, painted surfaces and weatherboards may respond differently to water pressure and cleaning products.

This is one reason homeowners often choose professional exterior cleaning services Melbourne rather than treating every surface with the same pressure-washing method.

A professional can select a suitable technique based on the material and level of buildup.

4. Roof Areas and Roof Valleys

When standing outside your home, you may notice the roof but rarely think about how much dirt it collects.

Roofs can gather leaves, moss, lichen, dust and other debris. Roof valleys can be particularly prone to collecting leaves and organic matter because of their shape.

Why Are Roof Valleys Important?

Roof valleys help direct rainwater towards your drainage system. When leaves and debris build up in these areas, they can interfere with water flow.

Moist debris can also contribute to organic growth.

Regular inspection and maintenance can help you identify problems before they become bigger issues.

Safety Should Come First

Roof cleaning is not a good DIY job for everyone. Wet roofs can become extremely slippery, and accessing higher areas without suitable equipment can be dangerous.

If your roof needs cleaning, consider hiring experienced exterior cleaning services Melbourne that have the right equipment and understand safe roof-cleaning practices.

5. Driveways, Paths and Outdoor Edges

Most homeowners notice when their driveway becomes dirty. However, they often clean only the main section and ignore the edges.

The areas around driveways, paths and outdoor entertaining spaces can collect plenty of grime.

Look at:

- Driveway edges
- Path borders
- Steps
- Garden edging
- Areas around bins
- Patio edges
- Outdoor entertaining areas

Why Do These Areas Get Dirty?

Outdoor edges are exposed to soil, leaves, water runoff and foot traffic. Weeds can also grow between pavers or along cracks.

Over time, dirt can make the entire outdoor area look less maintained.

Give Your Outdoor Areas a Complete Clean

Instead of focusing only on the centre of the driveway, clean the surrounding areas as well.

Pressure cleaning can be useful for suitable hard surfaces, but the correct pressure and technique matter. Too much pressure can damage some surfaces or remove jointing material between pavers.

Why These Forgotten Areas Matter

You may wonder whether cleaning these less-visible areas really makes a difference.

The answer is yes.

Your home's appearance depends on more than just its front door and windows. Small areas of dirt can affect the overall look of the property.

Regular exterior maintenance can help:

- Improve kerb appeal
- Reduce visible dirt and grime
- Manage mould and organic buildup
- Keep outdoor areas looking maintained
- Support general property upkeep
- Prepare your home for guests or inspections

Professional exterior cleaning services Melbourne can also make it easier to tackle several areas during one scheduled service.

How Often Should You Clean Your Home Exterior?

There is no single schedule that works for every Melbourne property.

Your cleaning needs can depend on:

- Location
- Weather exposure
- Nearby trees
- Property age
- Surface materials
- Amount of shade
- Previous maintenance
- Presence of mould or algae

A Simple Maintenance Routine

You can use a simple routine throughout the year.

Every few months:

Check eaves, walls, gutters, downpipes and outdoor areas for visible dirt or organic growth.

Before wetter months:

Check gutters and roof valleys for leaves and debris.

After storms:

Look for fallen branches, leaves and blocked drainage areas.

Once or twice a year:

Consider a more thorough exterior clean if your property develops noticeable buildup.

DIY Cleaning or Professional Cleaning?

Some small cleaning jobs are easy to manage yourself. For example, you can remove cobwebs from accessible areas or sweep leaves from paths.

However, larger jobs can require specialised equipment and experience.

Professional exterior cleaning services Melbourne can be useful when:

- Surfaces are difficult to reach
- Mould or algae has spread
- Your roof requires cleaning
- Large areas need pressure cleaning
- You are preparing your property for sale
- You are unsure which cleaning method is safe

The main benefit is not simply saving time. It is also using an appropriate cleaning method for each surface.

Don't Forget Your Exterior When Cleaning Your Home

A clean home should not stop at the front door.

Eaves, gutter exteriors, walls, roof valleys, driveways and outdoor edges can all collect dirt over time. Because many of these areas are easy to overlook, they can remain dirty for months before you notice them.

A simple inspection every few months can help you spot buildup early.

If the job is too large, too high, or difficult to clean safely, professional help can make the process easier.

Final Thoughts

Exterior cleaning is an important part of keeping your Melbourne property looking well maintained. While homeowners often focus on obvious areas, smaller and harder-to-see sections can also collect dirt, mould, leaves and grime.

From eaves and downpipes to roof valleys and driveway edges, these five forgotten spots deserve attention. Regular maintenance can help your property look cleaner and make it easier to identify potential issues early.

If you need help with larger or harder-to-reach areas, [Urbanvac](#) provides exterior cleaning solutions designed to help Melbourne properties stay clean and well maintained.

Ready to Give Your Exterior a Fresh Look?

If you need professional outdoor cleaning services Melbourne, consider having your property assessed from top to bottom rather than focusing only on the most visible areas.

A thorough exterior clean can cover those forgotten spots and give your property a more complete, refreshed appearance.

Don't wait until dirt and organic buildup become difficult to manage. Check those overlooked areas today and keep your home's exterior looking its best.