

# 4-Minute Home Self-Check

Spot the early signs of leaks or drafts before they become costly repairs. This quick walkthrough needs no tools and takes about four minutes. Move room-to-room and use your eyes, nose, and the back of your hand to detect potential problems early.

**Safety first:** Skip ladders and roof climbs. Stay on the ground, use indoor lighting, and only check the attic if it's safe and lit. This inspection is designed to be simple, safe, and effective for any homeowner.

# Minute 1 – Ceilings & Walls

## Visual Inspection

Look carefully for yellow or brown stains, bubbling or cracking paint, or sagging drywall. These are telltale signs of water intrusion that can lead to structural damage if left unchecked.

Pay special attention to areas around chimneys, skylights, and ceiling light fixtures where water commonly penetrates. Look for rings or discoloration that indicate moisture problems.

## Smell Test

Note any musty odor in rooms, as this is often a hidden moisture clue that indicates water damage behind walls or above ceilings.

Trust your senses—your nose can detect problems that aren't yet visible to the eye, giving you an early warning system for hidden leaks.

# Minute 2 – Windows & Doors

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## Hand Test for Drafts

Slowly move the back of your hand around window and door frames. Feel for cool or warm air movement that indicates gaps in sealing.

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## Visual Gap Check

Look for daylight peeking around weatherstripping or between the door and threshold. Even small gaps can lead to significant energy loss.

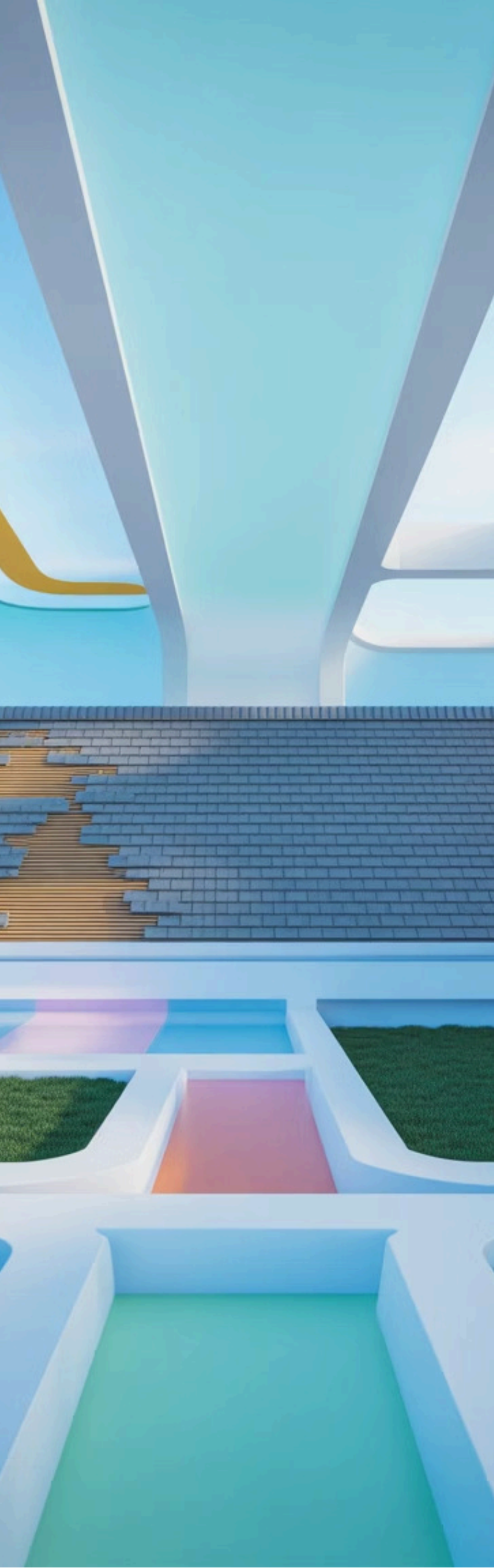
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## Moisture Assessment

Check for condensation between double panes or water staining on sills, which indicates seal failure or drainage problems.





# Minute 3 – Top Floor / Attic

On the top floor, recheck ceilings for fresh spots after rain. These new stains are critical indicators of active leaks that require immediate attention. Water damage often shows up first on the highest level of your home.

## **Attic Interior Check**

If the attic is safely accessible, glance for damp insulation, dark wood streaks, or visible daylight at roof penetrations. These signs indicate where water or air is entering your home.

## **Exterior Roofline Scan**

From the ground outside, scan the roofline for missing or curled shingles, sagging areas, or dark streaks near vents. Use binoculars if needed for a closer look without climbing.

# Minute 4 – Exterior, Gutters & Foundation

The exterior of your home provides crucial clues about water management and structural integrity. A systematic walk around your property can reveal problems before they cause interior damage.



## Gutter System

Look for gutter overflow stains on fascia, loose downspouts, or debris piles at gutter corners. Clogged gutters can cause water to back up under shingles.



## Siding & Trim

Check siding for gaps, missing caulk at trim, or warped pieces. Feel for drafts at exterior outlets that indicate air infiltration.



## Foundation Perimeter

Walk the foundation and note damp spots, efflorescence (white powder), or widening hairline cracks that signal water intrusion or settling issues.



# Quick Spot-Checks & Scorecard

## Tissue Test

Hold a tissue at window or door edges. If it flutters, you've got a draft that's costing you energy dollars.

## Flashlight Test (Night)

One person outside, one inside. Light shining through door jambs equals air gaps that need sealing.

## Meter Check

Unexpected spikes in water or gas bills can hint at hidden leaks or poor sealing throughout your home.

## Your Quick Scorecard

Findings	What It Means	Next Move
0 issues	All clear for now.	Recheck next season or after major storms.
1–2 minor issues	Early signs; address soon.	DIY seal/caulk or schedule a pro check.
3+ issues or active stains	Elevated risk of damage.	Request a certified inspection and repair plan.

# Ready for Professional Validation?

Prefer a pro to validate your findings? Book a no-pressure, certified roof and window assessment. We'll document everything on-site so you can make smart decisions instantly.



## Sealed Tite Home Improvements

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