

Advantages of Painted Metal Gutter

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INTRODUCTION

A roof drainage system is an important aspect of the overall roof design and careful selection of materials is essential to avoid the consequences of a failed rainwater system which inevitably result in damage to a building, more than often causing serious internal dampness.

At first glance PVC might seem like an economical solution however, whole life cost comparisons prove that this is not the case. PVC does not have the strength, rigidity, durability or colour fastness of metal rainwater systems.

From the all-important functional perspective, as PVC has a high expansion co-efficient this often causes the material to expand and contract causing the joints to pull apart and leak.

In spite of the latest co-extrusion technology, PVC is still prone to discoloration after a few years. New PVC products such as the substitute cast iron systems are merely over painted with a textured paint finish emulating a cast iron finish; this paint will delaminate after a very short period hence manufacturers only offer 10-year guarantees.

The table below sets out the benefits of metal gutter systems over PVC.

	UPVC	METAL
Durability	PVC gutter systems are attacked by UV causing the material to become brittle hence prone to cracking	Metal systems are UV and corrosion resistant to BS EN 150 1461
Aesthetics	Colour fades after a few years Limited choice of styles, colours and sizes	Excellent colour retention throughout its design life Vast choice of colours, style and sizes
Capacity	PVC ranges are generally limited to the domestic market restricting choice and not catering for higher flow capacity requirements	Both proprietary and purpose made systems offer limitless options to suit any building design

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