

The Re-Sealing of Joints in Cast Iron Gutters

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INTRODUCTION

Leaking joints on gutter installations are normally due to a breakdown of the old putty compound. This jointing method was historically used however due to ageing, the putty hardens and cracks causing 'dripping joints'. The joints can be successfully re-sealed by following the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- To effectively re-seal joints in cast iron gutters necessitates the removal of jointing bolts and separating the sections of gutter before any successful remedial work.
- A short-term repair may be effected by thoroughly and vigorously wire brushing the internal gutter surfaces to ensure removal of loose debris and any flakey rust. The cleaned surface of the joint area may then have an application of black rubberised gutter sealant or low modulus silicone sealant applied thoroughly to the joint area providing it is thoroughly dry.
- With regard to the question of sealing partly perforated gutters; there is no solution to this problem apart from removing affected gutters and replacing with suitable painted new gutters.
- Where gutters have internal surface corrosion there are two or three recommendations for refurbishing them: Thoroughly wire brush and ensure surface is completely dry before painting with any of the following:
 - Rustoleum® paint (available in various colours).
 - Hammerite Smooth®
 - A bitumen-based paint e.g. Bitumastic®

In summary, for leaking gutter joints it is strongly recommended to cut through the jointing bolts, thoroughly cleaning the gutter and reseal with a modern low modulus silicone sealant which will ensure many years of trouble-free life.

Typical examples of re-sealed joints



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