Snow Load Risks for Commercial Roofs

How to prevent damage when heavy snow and ice arrive.



Measuring the Weight of Snow and Ice

The type is as important as depth









FRESH SNOW



DANGER ZONE

In areas not prone to heavy snow, if the total amount of snow and ice exceeds 20-25 psf, consider having the snow removed from your roof.

Roof equipment, parapets or roof projections over 2 feet tall, can cause snow accumulation due to drifting. This can increase loads, make roof leaks more likely and affect equipment operation.

When a taller building is adjacent to a business, snow accumulation on the lower roof near the step can produce dangerous snow loads.

ADJACENT BUILDING

Do's and Dont's





Do hire a professional contractor to safely remove heavy snow.



Do look for signs of roof or ceiling deflection suggesting overloading.





Don't hesitate! Act quickly—it's better safe than sorry.

