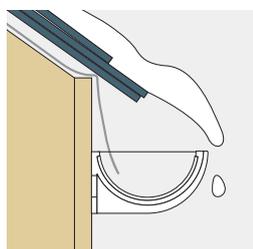


Rainwater System Installation - Introduction

For safe and satisfactory installation of Alumasc rainwater systems, the following good practice guidelines should be reviewed before installation commences. Where unusual or special conditions arise contact Alumasc Technical Services for assistance.

General Preparation and Good Practice

Securely fixed fascia boards must be painted and capable of supporting a fully loaded gutter. Check fascia for straightness and whether shims will be necessary to align brackets without creating stress at gutter joints. Where fascia boards are not being used Alumasc provide top and side fix rafter arm brackets as well as masonry drive-in brackets.

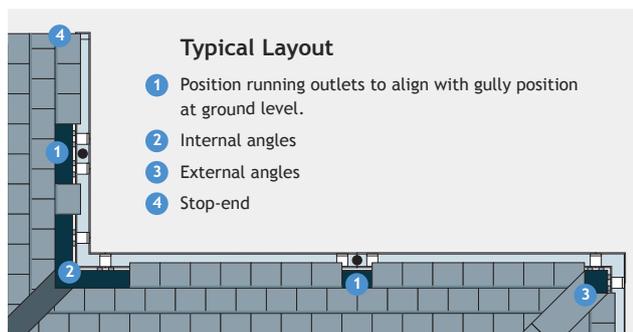


Fix brackets so as to position the gutter centrally and as close below the roof edge as possible, taking into consideration locality and roof slope finish. If there is a risk of sliding snow, adjust the bracket positions to prevent snow hitting the front of the gutter. Extra fixings, brackets and snowboards should be considered where appropriate.

Where high winds are expected, a small bead of sealant must be applied between gutter and brackets a flexible adhesive. An occasional screw, fixed through a slot in the back of the gutter and into the fascia may be preferred, at a minimum of two per length.

Alumasc advise that the designer and contractor satisfy themselves that the application is suitable.

Setting Out



After setting out angles and outlets, fit gutters and brackets according to installation procedures for the specific rainwater system being used, as detailed in this brochure.

Cutting and Drilling

Aluminium can be cut and drilled on site with regular metalworking tools. Pencil cut lines and apply masking tape either side of cut line to protect against accidental saw damage.

Site Painting (Touch Up Paint)

Before jointing and assembly, where powder coated materials have been cut, it is necessary to deburr exposed edges and degrease with solvent cleaner using clean rags or paper towels. Apply a zinc phosphate or aluminium etch primer and, when dry, apply 2 coats of matching touch up paint (supplied by Alumasc).

Health and Safety

Always refer to current Health and Safety legislation, safe systems of work and the relevant material safety data sheets.

Storage and Handling

Colour coated rainwater gutters and pipes must be handled with care to prevent scratches and dents. Materials should be stored on a level surface or racking, preferably under secure cover. Uneven fading or water marks on coated and mill finish surfaces may occur if water enters protective packing or goods are stored exposed to sunlight.

Mill finish goods will have manufacturing blemishes such as grinding and fettling marks, welding will be visible on fabricated items and extruded/pressed aluminium items may also be vulnerable to scratch marks or blemishes caused in-transit. It is recommended mill finish material is painted on-site.

Store seals and sealants under cover and make secure and separate provision for solvents. Dispose of packing materials responsibly.

Testing

Allow sufficient time for sealant joints to fully cure. Check all bracket and gutter fixings are secure and plug outlets. Fill up to overflow level (but not beyond). Allow 5 minutes before inspecting all joints for leaks.

Care and Maintenance

Regularly clean out rainwater heads and gutters and ensure that downpipes are clear. Check joints and fixings are secure by periodic inspection no less than twice a year, preferably at the start of Autumn and end of Winter.

Mill finish goods will develop a protective grey aluminium oxide, however it is recommended mill finish material is painted on-site. Polyester powder coated surfaces can be cleaned by washing with warm detergent solution and leathering off.

Aluminium rainwater systems installed in a coastal environment can be subject to harsh atmospheric conditions that can accelerate the oxidization process. Alumasc do not normally recommend using aluminium rainwater systems in such locations. However, applying a double coat of polyester powder coating prior to despatch, together with a strict and frequent maintenance regime, should result in the product having a life expectancy in excess of 15 years.

NB: This life expectancy depends on any installation damage being repaired immediately with appropriate touch-up paint, as should any site-cut ends exposing bare metal, which must be de-burred and then repainted in accordance with Alumasc's site painting procedure.

Please contact Alumasc Technical Services for further information.