

OTTAWA EAVESTROUGHS

Choosing a Contractor

What to look for in an Ottawa eavestrough contractor, questions to ask, red flags, understanding quotes, WSIB and insurance verification, and warranty considerations.

12 Expert Answers from Gutter IQ

ottawaeavestroughs.com/construction-brain

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Should I hire a roofing company or a dedicated eavestrough company for gutter work in Ottawa?

Hiring a dedicated eavestrough specialist is almost always the better choice for gutter work in Ottawa, as they bring focused expertise in the specific challenges of our extreme climate and the nuanced installation techniques that ensure long-term performance through brutal winters and heavy snow loads.

Eavestrough specialists understand the critical details that make the difference between a system that lasts 20 years versus one that fails after the first major ice storm. They know that **hanger spacing must be 24 inches maximum in Ottawa** (compared to 36 inches in milder climates) to handle snow loading, and many install hangers at 18-inch intervals for extra security. They understand how **aluminum expands over 6 millimeters on a 10-meter run** between our minus 30 winter lows and plus 35 summer highs, and they compensate for this thermal movement in their installation techniques.

Roofing companies often treat eavestroughs as an add-on service rather than a specialty, which can lead to shortcuts in Ottawa's demanding conditions. While a roofer might install gutters adequately, they may not fully grasp the importance of precise slope calculations (one quarter inch per 10 feet minimum), proper downspout sizing for Ottawa's intense summer thunderstorms, or the fascia reinforcement needed to handle ice dam stress. Eavestrough specialists also carry the portable roll-forming machines needed for seamless aluminum installation, while many roofing companies subcontract this work anyway.

The material knowledge difference is significant. Eavestrough specialists understand why 0.032-inch gauge aluminum outperforms standard 0.027-inch in our climate, why copper requires different expansion joint techniques, and why vinyl should be avoided entirely in Ottawa. They're also more likely to properly integrate gutter guard systems that work with our heavy leaf loading from mature neighbourhood trees in areas like Westboro, the Glebe, and Rockcliffe Park.

Cost-wise, dedicated eavestrough contractors typically offer better value because gutters are their primary business rather than a secondary service. Expect **8 to 18 dollars per linear foot for seamless aluminum** from an eavestrough specialist, while roofing companies often charge premium rates for what they consider specialty work. Eavestrough contractors also understand the seasonal timing better – they know that fall is peak season for discovering problems and plan their schedules accordingly.

The exception would be if you're doing a complete roof replacement that includes fascia and soffit work. In that case, coordinating through one contractor can make sense, but ensure they're subcontracting the actual eavestrough installation to a specialist rather than having roofers attempt the gutter work.

For the best results with your Ottawa eavestrough project, browse dedicated eavestrough contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com, where you can compare specialists who understand our unique climate challenges and installation requirements.

Q2

How to Choose an Eavestrough Installer in Ottawa

Choosing the right eavestrough installer in Ottawa comes down to confirming a few non-negotiable qualifications, asking the right questions, and comparing detailed written quotes from multiple contractors.

What to Look for in an Ottawa Eavestrough Contractor

The first thing to confirm is **WSIB (Workplace Safety and Insurance Board) coverage**. Eavestrough installation involves working at heights with ladders, scaffolding, and sheet metal, making it a higher-risk trade. If an uninsured worker is injured on your property, you could be held financially liable under Ontario law. Ask for a current WSIB clearance certificate — legitimate contractors will produce one without hesitation. Alongside WSIB, verify that the contractor carries a minimum of **\$2 million in general liability insurance**, which is the industry standard in Ontario.

Experience in Ottawa specifically matters more than general eavestrough experience. Ottawa's extreme climate — with temperature swings exceeding 65 degrees Celsius annually, over 200 centimetres of annual snowfall, and 50-plus freeze-thaw cycles each winter — demands installation techniques that differ from milder Canadian cities. An experienced Ottawa installer knows to space hangers at **18 to 24 inches** rather than the 36-inch spacing used in warmer regions, uses heavier **0.032-inch gauge aluminum** for exposed areas, and accounts for thermal expansion at corners and long runs. Ask how long the contractor has been installing eavestroughs in the Ottawa area and request **references from past Ottawa clients**.

Look for contractors who use **seamless roll-forming equipment** and carry it on-site. Seamless eavestroughs formed to the exact measurements of your home perform far better than pre-cut sectional systems, especially through Ottawa winters. Ask what **gauge of aluminum** they use as standard — budget installers sometimes default to thinner 0.027-inch gauge, which dents more easily under ice and ladder contact.

Get a **detailed written quote** that specifies the material type and gauge, hanger spacing, number and size of downspouts, whether old eavestrough removal and disposal is included, slope specifications, and warranty terms. A vague quote that simply says "install eavestroughs — \$2,000" is a red flag. The quote should also note the eavestrough profile — **5-inch K-style** is standard residential, but homes with steep roofs or large drainage areas

may need 6-inch.

Ask about **warranty coverage**. A reputable Ottawa installer should offer a minimum **5-year workmanship warranty** covering installation defects like improper slope, leaking seams, and hanger failure. Material warranties from manufacturers typically cover 20 to 25 years on aluminum but do not cover installation errors. Make sure you understand what is covered under each warranty separately.

A good starting point for finding qualified local eavestrough contractors is the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com, where you can browse professionals by trade and contact them directly for quotes.

Q3

Questions to Ask an Eavestrough Contractor in Ottawa

Asking the right questions before signing a contract separates a smooth eavestrough project from a frustrating one. Ottawa's demanding climate means certain questions are especially important here that might not matter in milder cities.

Start with the essentials that every Ontario contractor should answer without hesitation. **"Can you provide a current WSIB clearance certificate?"** is non-negotiable — eavestrough work involves heights, ladders, and sheet metal, and you need confirmation the contractor carries active Workplace Safety and Insurance Board coverage. Follow up with **"What is your liability insurance coverage?"** — the minimum standard in Ontario is \$2 million. Ask for proof of both before any work begins.

Ottawa-Specific Questions That Matter

Ottawa's climate demands specific installation practices, so ask questions that reveal whether the contractor understands local conditions. **"What hanger spacing do you use?"** — the correct answer for Ottawa is **18 to 24 inches maximum**. If they say 36 inches, that is a contractor unfamiliar with snow-belt requirements. Ask **"What gauge aluminum do you install as standard?"** — 0.027-inch is the budget standard, while **0.032-inch gauge** offers significantly better resistance to ice damage and denting. Ask which gauge is included in their quote and what the upgrade costs.

"How do you handle thermal expansion on long runs?" is a question that separates experienced Ottawa installers from generalists. Aluminum eavestroughs expand roughly 6 millimetres over a 10-metre run between Ottawa's winter lows and summer highs. Proper installers use expansion joints or leave calculated gaps at corners and end caps. A blank stare in response to this question tells you everything you need to know.

Ask **"How many downspouts are you including and what size?"** — undersized or too few downspouts is one of the most common problems in Ottawa installations. A typical Ottawa bungalow needs a downspout every **30 to 40 linear feet** of eavestrough, and 3-by-4-inch rectangular downspouts handle heavy rainfall far better than 2-by-3-inch. Ask **"Where will downspouts discharge and how far from the foundation?"** — the Ontario Building Code requires a minimum **1.8-metre setback** from foundation walls.

"Does your quote include removal and disposal of the old eavestroughs?" — some contractors quote installation only and charge \$200 to \$500 extra for teardown and disposal. Get this in writing. Ask **"What is your warranty and what does it cover specifically?"** — workmanship warranties should be a minimum of **5 years**, separate from the manufacturer's material warranty. Ask what happens if a seam leaks or a hanger fails within the warranty period.

Finally, ask **"When can you start and how long will the job take?"** — a typical Ottawa bungalow takes one day, a two-storey home one to two days. Fall is the busiest season for eavestrough work in Ottawa, so booking early is wise. Homeowners can find and contact eavestrough professionals through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com to start gathering quotes.

How Many Eavestrough Quotes Should You Get in Ottawa?

Yes, absolutely — getting multiple quotes is one of the best things you can do to ensure fair pricing and quality work on your Ottawa eavestrough project. The standard recommendation is **a minimum of three written quotes**, and for larger projects like a full eavestrough replacement on a two-storey home, four or five quotes give you an even clearer picture of the market.

Ottawa's eavestrough market has a wide range of pricing, and comparing quotes helps you understand what is reasonable. For seamless aluminum eavestroughs on a typical Ottawa bungalow with 120 to 150 linear feet, quotes should generally fall between **\$1,500 and \$3,000**. For a two-storey home with 150 to 200 linear feet, expect **\$2,500 to \$5,000**. If one quote comes in dramatically below the others, that is as much a warning sign as a quote that is dramatically higher. Unusually low quotes often mean thinner gauge aluminum, wider hanger spacing, fewer downspouts, or no WSIB coverage — all of which cost you more in the long run.

How to Compare Eavestrough Quotes Properly

The key to useful comparison is ensuring every quote covers the **same scope of work**. Before requesting quotes, walk around your home and note the approximate linear footage, number of corners, number of downspouts currently installed, any visible fascia damage, and whether you want gutter guards included. Share this information with every contractor so quotes are comparable.

A proper eavestrough quote should itemize the following: **material type and gauge** (0.027-inch vs 0.032-inch aluminum), **eavestrough profile and size** (5-inch vs 6-inch K-style), **hanger type and spacing**, **number and size of downspouts**, **whether old eavestrough removal and disposal is included**, **timeline**, and **warranty terms**. If a quote is just a single dollar figure with no breakdown, ask for details or move on to another contractor.

Pay special attention to what is **not included**. Some contractors exclude fascia repair, which can add **\$12 to \$25 per linear foot** if your existing fascia boards are rotted — a common issue on Ottawa homes older than 20 years. Others exclude downspout extensions or charge separately for multi-storey access using scaffolding. These additions can shift a seemingly competitive quote into the most expensive option.

Timing affects your quote leverage in Ottawa. **Late winter and early spring** (February through April) is the slow season for eavestrough contractors, and you may receive more competitive pricing and faster scheduling. **September and October** are peak season when many homeowners discover problems, and contractors are busiest — quotes may be higher and wait times longer.

Do not automatically choose the cheapest quote. Weight your decision on the combination of **price, material quality, warranty, experience in Ottawa, and WSIB coverage**. A \$500 savings on installation means nothing if

the system fails three years sooner due to inferior materials or improper hanger spacing. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com is a helpful resource for finding multiple eavestrough contractors to request quotes from.

Q5

Eavestrough Warranty Expectations in Ottawa

Eavestrough warranties in Ottawa typically come in two separate layers — a **manufacturer's material warranty** and the **installer's workmanship warranty** — and understanding the difference between them is essential before signing any contract.

Manufacturer material warranties on aluminum eavestroughs generally cover **20 to 25 years** against defects in the metal itself, including perforation from corrosion, delamination of the factory-baked enamel finish, and structural failure under normal conditions. These warranties come from the aluminum manufacturer, not your installer, and they have important limitations. Most material warranties are **prorated**, meaning coverage decreases over time. They also typically exclude damage from "acts of nature" — which in Ottawa means ice storm damage, heavy snow loading, and falling tree branches are often not covered. Copper eavestroughs may carry **50-year or lifetime material warranties** given copper's extraordinary durability, though these are less standardized.

Workmanship Warranties and What They Should Cover

The installer's workmanship warranty is where your real protection lies for the first several years. A reputable Ottawa eavestrough contractor should offer a minimum **5-year workmanship warranty**, and many quality installers now offer **10 years**. This warranty should cover installation-specific issues including **leaking seams and joints, improper slope causing standing water, hanger failure or pull-away from fascia, downspout connections that separate, and end cap leaks**. These are the problems that stem from installation quality rather than material defects, and they typically show up within the first few years — especially after Ottawa's first winter tests every connection and hanger.

Get the warranty terms in **writing as part of your contract**. Verbal warranty promises are unenforceable. The written warranty should specify exactly what is covered, the duration, whether it is transferable if you sell your home, and what the contractor's obligation is — specifically whether they will repair or replace defective work at **no charge** during the warranty period. Ask whether the warranty covers the full cost of repair including labour and materials, or just materials.

Be cautious of contractors offering unusually long workmanship warranties like 25 years or lifetime. A warranty is only as good as the company standing behind it, and many small eavestrough operations do not survive 25 years. A **5-to-10-year warranty from an established Ottawa contractor** with a solid track record is worth more than a lifetime warranty from a company that may not exist in five years.

Ottawa's extreme climate is particularly punishing on eavestrough installations, so workmanship warranties matter more here than in milder cities. The **50-plus annual freeze-thaw cycles**, heavy snow loading, and ice dam pressure will expose any installation shortcuts within the first two winters. A contractor who confidently offers a strong workmanship warranty is signalling confidence in their installation quality.

When comparing contractors, ask each one the same warranty questions and put their answers side by side. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com can help you connect with eavestrough professionals who stand behind their work.

Q6

How to Verify an Eavestrough Contractor Is Insured in Ontario

Verifying an eavestrough contractor's insurance and workplace safety coverage in Ontario is straightforward, and taking these steps before any work begins protects you from serious financial liability.

The most important verification is **WSIB (Workplace Safety and Insurance Board) coverage**. Eavestrough installation involves working at heights on ladders and scaffolding, handling sharp sheet metal, and operating roll-forming machinery — all activities with real injury risk. Under Ontario law, if an uninsured contractor or their employee is injured on your property, **you as the homeowner could be held liable** for medical costs and lost wages. Ask the contractor for their WSIB account number, then verify their status directly through the **WSIB online clearance certificate system** at wsib.ca. You can request an independent clearance certificate that confirms their account is active and in good standing. This takes about two minutes and costs nothing.

Insurance and Business Verification Steps

Beyond WSIB, confirm the contractor carries **commercial general liability insurance** with a minimum of **\$2 million in coverage**. This protects your property if the contractor damages your roof, siding, landscaping, or home exterior during installation. Ask for a copy of their insurance certificate and verify it is current — policies can lapse, and a certificate from last year may no longer be valid. You can call the insurance company listed on the certificate to confirm active coverage.

Unlike electrical or plumbing work, eavestrough installation in Ontario **does not require a specific trade licence**. There is no provincial eavestrough licence or certification that contractors must hold. This means anyone can legally offer eavestrough services, which makes your own due diligence even more important. However, if your eavestrough project includes **hardwired heat cable installation** for ice dam prevention, that portion of the work must be performed by an **ESA (Electrical Safety Authority) licensed electrician**. You can verify an electrician's licence through the ESA's online contractor search tool.

Check whether the contractor has a **registered business in Ontario**. You can search the Ontario Business Registry to confirm they are a legitimate registered business rather than someone operating informally. While not legally required for all sole proprietors, formal business registration suggests a higher level of professionalism and accountability.

For an additional layer of confidence, check the contractor's record with the **Better Business Bureau** and search for any complaints filed with the **Ontario Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery**. Online reviews on Google are useful but should be weighed carefully — look for patterns across many reviews rather than reacting to a single positive or negative comment.

The entire verification process takes less than 30 minutes and can save you from thousands of dollars in liability. Any contractor who hesitates to provide WSIB clearance or insurance documentation is not worth your consideration. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com is a convenient starting point for finding eavestrough contractors in the Ottawa area to request quotes and credentials from.

Red Flags When Hiring an Eavestrough Company in Ottawa

Knowing the warning signs of a substandard eavestrough contractor can save you thousands of dollars and months of frustration. Ottawa's eavestrough market includes many excellent professionals, but it also attracts seasonal operators and underskilled installers who take advantage of homeowners' urgency — especially during fall when gutter problems become obvious.

Major Red Flags to Watch For

The biggest red flag is a contractor who **cannot or will not provide WSIB clearance and liability insurance documentation**. In Ontario, eavestrough work involves height, ladders, and sheet metal — if an uninsured worker falls on your property, you face potential liability. Any legitimate Ottawa eavestrough contractor will produce these documents immediately upon request. Hesitation, excuses, or claims that "we don't need that" should end the conversation.

Demanding large deposits upfront is another serious warning sign. While a modest deposit of **10 to 15 percent** on larger projects is reasonable to secure scheduling and materials, any contractor asking for **50 percent or more before starting work** is a risk. Eavestrough materials — aluminum coil stock, hangers, downspout components — are relatively inexpensive for the contractor to carry, and most reputable installers do not require significant upfront payment for standard residential jobs.

Be wary of **vague or verbal-only quotes**. A proper Ottawa eavestrough quote should be in writing and specify material type and gauge, hanger spacing, number of downspouts, whether teardown and disposal of old eavestroughs is included, timeline, and warranty terms. A contractor who gives you a quick number over the phone without measuring your home has no way to provide an accurate quote — they are either planning to upsell on-site or cutting corners to hit a low price.

Pressure tactics and limited-time pricing are classic red flags. "This price is only good today" or "I have a crew in your neighbourhood this week" are designed to prevent you from getting competing quotes. Legitimate contractors know their pricing is competitive and have no problem waiting while you compare options.

Watch for contractors who **do not discuss hanger spacing or material gauge**. In Ottawa's climate, these details are critical — an installer who does not mention them either does not understand local requirements or plans to use the cheapest materials and widest spacing to maximize profit. Ask directly about hanger spacing; the answer should be **24 inches maximum, ideally 18 inches**.

No physical business address or unmarked vehicles suggest a fly-by-night operation. While some legitimate contractors work from home offices, they should still have a verifiable business presence, professional signage, and

branded vehicles. Door-to-door eavestrough salespeople who appear after a storm are particularly risky — Ottawa sees a wave of these operators after ice storms and heavy wind events.

Finally, be cautious of quotes that are **dramatically lower than competitors** — 30 percent or more below the average usually means thinner gauge aluminum, wider hanger spacing, fewer downspouts, or no WSIB coverage. For reference, seamless aluminum on a typical Ottawa bungalow should run **\$1,500 to \$3,000**. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com can help you find established local eavestrough professionals to compare against.

Q8

Specialist vs General Contractor for Eavestroughs in Ottawa

For most residential eavestrough projects in Ottawa, a **specialist eavestrough company is the better choice** over a general contractor. The reasons come down to equipment, efficiency, pricing, and climate-specific expertise that matters enormously in Ottawa's demanding environment.

Specialist eavestrough companies own their own **portable roll-forming machines**, which produce seamless aluminum eavestroughs on-site to the exact measurements of your home. This is a significant advantage — seamless systems eliminate mid-run joints that are vulnerable to leaking, especially through Ottawa's 50-plus annual freeze-thaw cycles. A general contractor who offers eavestrough work typically subcontracts it to a specialist anyway, adding a **markup of 15 to 30 percent** to cover their coordination and profit margin. By going directly to the eavestrough specialist, you cut out the middleman and often get better pricing.

When Each Option Makes Sense

Specialist eavestrough companies install gutters every day, which means their crews are faster, more efficient, and more attuned to the details that matter in Ottawa. They understand proper **hanger spacing for snow loading** (18 to 24 inches rather than the 36-inch spacing that works in milder climates), they account for **thermal expansion** on long aluminum runs, and they know which gauge of aluminum performs best through Ottawa winters. A typical bungalow eavestrough replacement takes a specialist crew **half a day**, while a general contractor's crew unfamiliar with the specific equipment and techniques may take a full day or more.

Pricing reflects this efficiency. A specialist eavestrough company in Ottawa typically charges **\$8 to \$18 per linear foot** for seamless aluminum installed, while a general contractor managing the same project through a subcontractor often quotes **\$12 to \$22 per linear foot** for an identical product. On a full house with 150 linear feet of eavestrough, that difference can amount to **\$600 to \$1,200** in savings.

However, there are situations where a **general contractor makes more sense**. If your eavestrough project is part of a larger exterior renovation — say you are replacing eavestroughs along with a **roof replacement, soffit and fascia work, and siding repairs** — a general contractor can coordinate all trades and ensure everything integrates properly. Removing old roofing and installing new eavestroughs in sequence requires coordination that a general contractor manages well. Having one point of contact for a multi-trade project simplifies communication and accountability.

If your fascia boards need significant repair or replacement before new eavestroughs can be installed, a general contractor with carpentry skills may handle the full scope more efficiently than hiring a fascia carpenter and an eavestrough installer separately. Fascia rot is common on Ottawa homes over 20 years old, particularly on north-facing elevations where ice and moisture linger longest, and **fascia replacement runs \$12 to \$25 per linear foot** on top of eavestrough costs.

For a straightforward eavestrough replacement or new installation on an Ottawa home with sound fascia, go with a specialist. For complex multi-trade exterior projects, a general contractor who coordinates specialists is often the smoother path. Either way, the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com lists both eavestrough specialists and general contractors you can contact for quotes.

Q9

Local Ottawa Eavestrough Company vs National Chain

For most Ottawa homeowners, a **local eavestrough company** will deliver better value, more responsive service, and work that's properly adapted to our extreme climate. National chains like LeafFilter have polished marketing, but there are important trade-offs to consider before signing a contract.

Why Local Companies Have the Edge in Ottawa

Ottawa's climate demands installation techniques that national franchises don't always account for. Local eavestrough contractors understand that **hanger spacing needs to be 18 to 24 inches** rather than the 36-inch standard used in milder regions. They know that our **50-plus freeze-thaw cycles** per winter stress every seam and fastener, and they spec materials accordingly. A local crew that's been working through Ottawa winters for a decade installs differently than a technician following a one-size-fits-all corporate manual.

Pricing is another significant factor. National chains typically charge **\$25 to \$40 per linear foot** for their gutter guard systems, while local Ottawa companies offer comparable or superior micro-mesh guards for **\$18 to \$30 per linear foot**. That difference adds up quickly on a home with 150 to 200 linear feet of gutter — you could be paying

\$1,500 to \$3,000 more for the national brand name. National chains also tend to use high-pressure sales tactics with "today only" discounts, which is a red flag in any trade.

Local companies build their reputation through word-of-mouth in Ottawa neighbourhoods like Barrhaven, Kanata, and Orleans. If something goes wrong two winters from now, a local contractor is a phone call away. National chains route warranty claims through call centres, and getting a crew dispatched to Ottawa for a warranty repair can take weeks. Local contractors also carry **WSIB coverage** specific to Ontario and understand their obligations under the Ontario Building Code, including proper downspout discharge distances of **at least 1.8 metres** from foundations.

That said, do your homework regardless of whether you go local or national. Ask any company for their **WSIB clearance certificate**, confirm they carry a minimum of **\$2 million in liability insurance**, and get at least **three written quotes** that detail material gauge, hanger spacing, number of downspouts, and warranty terms. A legitimate local company will happily provide all of this.

If you're looking for experienced local eavestrough contractors, the Ottawa Construction Network directory at **justynrookcontracting.com** lists professionals across the region — it's a free resource to browse and compare before making your decision.

Eavestrough Installation Warranty Guide Ottawa

A solid eavestrough installation warranty in Ottawa should cover both **materials and workmanship** separately, because they fail for different reasons in our harsh climate. Understanding what's actually covered — and what's quietly excluded — saves you from expensive surprises when a problem surfaces three winters from now.

What to Look For in Your Warranty

The **material warranty** comes from the manufacturer and covers defects like premature corrosion, finish peeling, or structural failure under normal conditions. For quality aluminum eavestroughs, expect a material warranty of **20 to 30 years** on the factory-baked enamel finish and the aluminum itself. Copper eavestroughs often carry **lifetime material warranties** because copper simply doesn't corrode the way other metals do. Galvanized steel typically has a shorter **10 to 15 year** material warranty, reflecting its vulnerability to rust in Ottawa's wet climate.

The **workmanship warranty** comes from your installer and covers installation errors — things like improper slope that causes standing water, poorly sealed seams that leak, hangers that pull away from the fascia, or downspouts that aren't properly connected. In Ottawa's market, a reputable eavestrough contractor should offer a workmanship warranty of **at least 5 years**, and many quality installers provide **10 years or more**. Be cautious of any contractor offering less than 3 years on labour — in our climate with **minus 30 degree winters and 50-plus freeze-thaw cycles**, installation problems typically surface within the first two or three seasons.

Pay close attention to **what's excluded**. Most warranties will not cover damage from ice dams caused by poor attic insulation, which is a homeowner maintenance issue rather than an installation defect. Physical damage from ladders, falling branches, or impact is almost always excluded. Some warranties void coverage if the homeowner hasn't maintained regular cleaning — at minimum **twice-annual cleaning** in fall and spring. If you have gutter guards installed, confirm whether the warranty requires professional inspection at set intervals.

Get every warranty detail **in writing before work begins**. Your quote should clearly state the material warranty length, workmanship warranty length, what's covered, what's excluded, and the process for filing a claim. Ask whether the warranty is **transferable** if you sell your home — a transferable warranty adds resale value, particularly in established Ottawa neighbourhoods like the Glebe or Westboro where buyers pay attention to exterior condition.

Always confirm that your installer carries **WSIB coverage** and at least **\$2 million in liability insurance**. A warranty from an uninsured contractor who disappears after two years is worthless. Browse eavestrough professionals through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at justynrookcontracting.com to find contractors who stand behind their work.

How to Check Eavestrough Company Reviews in Ottawa

Checking reviews for Ottawa eavestrough companies requires looking across **multiple platforms** and knowing how to spot both genuine feedback and manipulated ratings. The good news is that Ottawa's construction community is tight-knit enough that poor work gets noticed quickly, especially in neighbourhoods where word travels fast.

Start with **Google Business reviews**, which are the most difficult for companies to fake because they're tied to real Google accounts. Search for the company name and look for patterns rather than individual reviews. A company with **50 or more reviews** and a **4.3 to 4.7 average** is typically more reliable than one with a perfect 5.0 from only 8 reviews — perfection usually signals cherry-picked or solicited reviews. Pay special attention to **negative reviews and how the company responds**. A professional contractor addresses complaints directly and offers solutions rather than getting defensive or ignoring them.

Facebook reviews and community groups are especially valuable in Ottawa. Local groups like Ottawa Home Renovations, Barrhaven Community, or Kanata North Neighbourhood often have homeowners sharing real experiences with eavestrough contractors. These unfiltered recommendations carry weight because they come from actual neighbours with no financial incentive. Search the group history for "eavestroughs" or "gutters" and you'll find candid feedback.

The **Better Business Bureau (BBB)** is worth checking, though it's not a perfect indicator. An A+ rating doesn't guarantee quality work, but active unresolved complaints are a clear warning sign. Also check the **Ontario consumer protection database** for any formal complaints filed against the company.

When reading reviews, look for **Ottawa-specific details** that confirm the reviewer actually hired the company locally. References to neighbourhoods like Orleans, Stittsville, or Manotick, mentions of ice dam work, or comments about how the crew handled a tricky roofline all suggest authentic reviews. Generic reviews that could apply to any city anywhere are less reliable.

Before hiring, always do your own verification beyond reviews. Ask the contractor for **three recent local references** you can actually call. Confirm their **WSIB clearance certificate** is current and that they carry at minimum **\$2 million in liability insurance**. A company confident in their work will provide references without hesitation.

The Ottawa Construction Network directory at **justynrookcontracting.com** is another useful starting point for finding eavestrough professionals in the region — it's free to browse and helps you build a shortlist before comparing quotes.

Seamless vs Sectional Eavestrough Warranty Differences in Ottawa

The warranty landscape for eavestroughs in Ottawa differs significantly between seamless and sectional systems, and understanding these differences can save you from unexpected repair costs down the road.

Seamless aluminum eavestroughs typically come with a material warranty of 20 to 25 years on the factory-finished paint and a separate workmanship warranty from your installer covering installation quality, seams at corners and downspout outlets, and hanger attachment. Sectional eavestroughs, whether purchased from a building supply store or installed by a contractor, usually carry a manufacturer's material warranty of 10 to 20 years but the critical difference is that they have far more joints — every 10-foot section creates a seam, and those seams are the most common failure point.

What Each Warranty Actually Covers

A seamless eavestrough contractor in Ottawa will typically offer a workmanship warranty of 5 to 15 years that covers leaking at corner mitre joints, proper slope for drainage, hanger failure, and separation from the fascia board. This workmanship warranty is where the real value lies, because Ottawa's 50-plus annual freeze-thaw cycles stress every connection point in the gutter system. The material warranty covers the aluminum itself against perforation from corrosion, cracking, and paint peeling or flaking. Most reputable manufacturers guarantee the baked-on enamel finish for the life of the warranty.

Sectional gutters have an inherent disadvantage in Ottawa's climate because each joint sealed with gutter sealant is a potential failure point. Sealant degrades over time, especially when subjected to the 65-degree temperature swing between Ottawa's winter lows of minus 30 and summer highs above 35. A typical 150-foot sectional system has 15 or more joints compared to just 4 to 6 corner and downspout connections on a seamless system. Manufacturer warranties on sectional gutters generally do not cover joint failure — that responsibility falls on whoever installed and sealed them.

When comparing quotes from Ottawa eavestrough contractors, ask these specific warranty questions: Does the workmanship warranty cover ice damage and snow load failure? Is the warranty transferable if you sell the home? Does the contractor require annual maintenance or inspection to keep the warranty valid? Some contractors void the workmanship warranty if you do not maintain the system, which is a fair stipulation given how quickly Ottawa's leaf debris and ice can stress gutters.

For copper eavestroughs — popular on heritage homes in Rockcliffe Park and the Glebe — warranties are typically longer, ranging from 25 to 50 years on material. Copper joints are soldered rather than sealed, creating permanent connections that do not degrade like sealant. The installed cost of \$25 to \$45 per linear foot in Ottawa reflects that longevity. Always get warranty terms in writing

before signing a contract, and confirm your contractor carries **WSIB coverage** and at least **\$2 million in liability insurance**. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at **justynrookcontracting.com** is a helpful starting point for connecting with eavestrough contractors who stand behind their work.

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Ottawa Eavestroughs. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified, licensed contractors and your local building authority before starting any eavestrough, gutter, or soffit/fascia project. Information is current as of May 31, 2026 and may change. Visit ottawaeavestroughs.com for the latest answers.