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Long-Term Effects of UV Rays on Your Roof

1. How UV Rays Break Down Roofing Materials

UV rays slowly break down the oils and binders in asphalt shingles, leaving them dry, brittle, and prone to cracking, similar to rubber or leather left in direct sunlight for years. Fading isn't just cosmetic; it signals the protective surface is actively wearing away.

2. Which Parts of Your Roof Are Most at Risk

Sealants around flashing and pipe boots dry out and pull away under UV exposure, allowing water entry even when shingles look fine. South- and west-facing slopes take the biggest hit, and fascia boards, trim, and gutters are vulnerable too.

3. Warning Signs of UV Damage on Your Roof

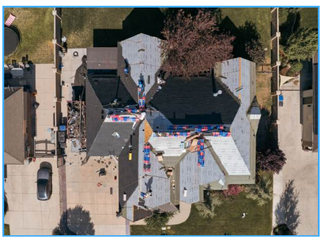
Fading, curling edges, and granules collecting in gutters are visible from the ground. Up close, small surface cracks and dried-out sealant around penetrations reveal more, but UV damage builds slowly, so many homeowners don't notice until a leak appears indoors.

4. Why Utah Roofs Face a Higher UV Risk

Utah's high elevation filters less UV radiation, and its status as one of the sunniest states means roofing materials age faster than expected. A shingle roof rated for 30 years at a lower elevation may show UV-related wear significantly sooner on the Wasatch Front.

5. How Proper Installation and Inspections Make a Difference

Quality installation, correct materials, overlap, and sealed penetrations give a roof a better foundation against UV wear. UV-resistant coatings and reflective granules slow aging further, and regular inspections catch early seal failures and granule loss before they compound.



6. The Difference Your Roofer Makes

UV damage builds slowly and often goes unnoticed until it has shortened a roof's lifespan. A qualified local roofer familiar with high-altitude sun exposure inspects the full system, not just the shingles, and catches small issues before they become expensive repairs.

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