

Our Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne-How to Avoid Scams

Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne enthusiastically supports Consumer Affairs Victoria campaign to make us aware of Travelling Conmen.

We believe that Victorians, specifically Melbournians have been subjected to being scammed by pretend tradies for far too long! These conmen are not only putting all professional tradesmen's reputations at risk, they have also been targeting the most vulnerable members of our community with their dodgy practices. And it's often companies like Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne who are left to either repair any messes these scam agents leave behind, or whose trade suffers from having a damaged reputation.

Who are these conmen?

Frequently the scammers appear to be well trained professional tradesmen. They always approach home owners, often by door knocking, and usually agree to do 'cash' jobs. They more often than not, present the 'work' they are proposing to do as being 'a once only offer.' And regularly appear after storms or other disasters have happened and when more respected companies, like Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne, have a heavy client loading.

Rarely do conmen give more than their first names and mobile numbers.

How do these Conmen make their money?

Making money out of scams is easier than what you might think. It's simple, they either over-charge, use faulty or poor standard materials, half finish jobs, or simply take a deposit and don't do any work at all.

So, how do their scams work?

- One person we know of was approached by a 'tradesman' who appeared at her door with a shovel in his hand. He offered to resurface her driveway at a cut rate, just to 'get rid of the excess' driveway surfacing material leftover from 'a neighbour's driveway'. In tradesman's overalls he looked like the 'real thing'. In this case the woman was lucky; she dismissed the tradesman with a smile. After a quick check with her neighbours later she realised no one in their area had actually had their driveway resurfaced and it was actually a scam.
- An older couple in our area were approached by dodgy tile roof restorers and given a verbal quote to 'fix' their roof by cleaning the moss off, and then spray it with a sealant. Fortunately the couple had the good sense to turn the 'tilers' down, because when they got quotes to carry out the same work by our Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne, they found out the price the conmen had quoted was massively over the standard amount paid.
- The <u>Herald Sun</u> reported that one Craigieburn couple were approached by two Irish men brandishing genuine-looking pamphlets last August. They paid \$5000 for their roof to be fixed, cleaned and spray-painted. The couple were left with nothing but a soggy mess in their roof, the conmen were never bought to justice, and the roof was left unrestored.

What You Can Do To Protect Yourself

There are a few things you can do; <u>Consumer Affairs Victoria</u> offers a list of six key tips to protect yourself. Obviously one way is to only deal with reputable companies like Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne who can only stay in business as long as they have by offering reliable service at a cost-effective price, and whose credentials you can check out. You should only ever deal with any company who doesn't pressure you in any way to accept a quote, and only employs fully qualified, professional tradespeople.

What can you do if you've been scammed?

Help Strong Life Guttering And Roofing Company Melbourne keep conmen out of our business. If you think a tradesman who comes knocking at your door could be a conman – write down any details you can about their appearance, what type of vehicle they drive, and anything else that might help the authorities track them down.

Report any suspicious behaviour either on the National Travelling Con Men Hotline 1300 133 408, or on the Facebook page.

Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

For any information about Strong Life Guttering and Roofing Company Melbourne, or to arrange a free quote from one of our professional team of guttering and roofing experts, phone Strong Life (03) 9310 4455, enquire online, use our live chat service on our website or email marketing@stronglifeguttersandroofing.com.au