

ALFRESCO

AUTUMN 2026

Autumn Has Arrived Time to Prepare Your Home for Winter

As the leaves begin to turn and the evenings draw in, autumn brings some of the most beautiful scenery of the year. Crisp mornings, cosy evenings, and colourful gardens make it a wonderful season to enjoy your home.

It's also the season when your property works the hardest.

Falling leaves, moss, algae and debris begin collecting in gutters, on roofs, across driveways and patios, and even on solar panels. Left unattended, these can lead to blocked drainage, slippery surfaces and unnecessary damage as we head into winter.

At Alfresco Exterior Cleaning, autumn is one of our busiest times because preventative maintenance now can save costly repairs later.

Simple Autumn Home Care Tips

- Check your gutters after windy weather.
- Sweep leaves from paths regularly to prevent slips.
- Keep drains free from leaves and moss.
- Move outdoor furniture somewhere dry before winter.
- Trim overhanging branches to reduce leaves collecting on roofs and gutters.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
— Benjamin Franklin

Our most popular autumn services include:

- Gutter Clearing – Removing leaves and debris before winter rain arrives.
- Roof Moss Removal – Prevent moss blocking gutters and damaging roof tiles.
- Window Cleaning – Keeping autumn grime and rain marks at bay.
- Solar Panel Cleaning – Fallen leaves and dirt reduce efficiency just when daylight hours are shortening.
- Soft Washing – Patios, paths and driveways become slippery as moss and algae thrive in damp conditions.

While we're keeping your home's exterior looking its best, here are a few simple ways you can help protect your property throughout autumn.

Contact Us

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Autumn Property Quiz

Think you're ready for autumn? Test your knowledge!

- 1 What is the biggest cause of blocked gutters during autumn?
A) Dust
B) Fallen leaves
C) Rainwater
- 2 Why should gutters be cleared before winter?
A) To prevent overflowing and water damage
B) To improve Wi-Fi
C) To stop birds nesting
- 3 Moss on roof tiles can...
A) Help protect your roof
B) Trap moisture and damage tiles
C) Keep your loft warmer
- 4 Wet leaves on patios can become...
A) Fertiliser
B) Slippery and hazardous
C) Easier to sweep
- 5 Which service helps solar panels perform more efficiently?
A) Roof painting
B) Solar panel cleaning
C) Window cleaning
- 6 Pressure washing removes algae that can make paths slippery.
True
False
- 7 Which season is the best time to clear gutters?
A) Spring
B) Autumn
C) Mid-winter
- 8 What can blocked gutters eventually cause?
A) Damp walls
B) Overflowing water
C) Damage to fascias and soffits
D) All of the above
- 9 Which service helps improve your home's appearance before winter?
A) Exterior window cleaning
B) Driveway cleaning
C) Roof cleaning
D) All of them
- 10 Bonus Question - Which autumn service potentially saves homeowners the most expensive repairs?
A) Gutter clearing
B) Window cleaning
C) Patio cleaning

ANSWERS - See the answers on the last page and enter a competition to win £25 in M&S vouchers.



Pet Spotlight

Meet Rusko, our featured furry friend this season!

Rusko is always ready for his next adventure with his mum, whether it's exploring the countryside, discovering new walking routes, or simply enjoying the great outdoors. When he's not out and about, you'll usually find him on the lookout for his favourite pastime... snacks! In fact, Rusko isn't too fussy about what they are, if it's edible, he's convinced it's meant for him!

Thanks for sharing Rusko with us. We hope he enjoys plenty more adventures (and treats!) this autumn.

We'd love to feature your furry friend in our next newsletter! Simply WhatsApp us your favourite photo along with your pet's name and a little about them.

Autumn Comfort Recipes

Easy Cinnamon Apple Crumble

Nothing says autumn quite like a warm apple crumble fresh from the oven. It's quick to make and perfect served with custard, cream or vanilla ice cream.

Ingredients

For the filling:

- 4 cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced
- 2 tbsp caster sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon

For the crumble topping:

- 175g plain flour
- 100g cold butter, cubed
- 75g light brown sugar



Method

1. Preheat your oven to 190°C (170°C fan).
 2. Place the sliced apples into an ovenproof dish and sprinkle over the caster sugar and cinnamon.
 3. In a mixing bowl, rub the butter into the flour using your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs.
 4. Stir in the brown sugar.
 5. Sprinkle the crumble mixture evenly over the apples.
 6. Bake for 35–40 minutes, or until the topping is golden brown and the apples are soft.
- Serve warm with custard, cream or a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Sparkling Apple & Blackberry Fizz

A light, fruity drink that's perfect for autumn afternoons and can easily be made as a mocktail or cocktail.



Ingredients

- 100ml cloudy apple juice
- A handful of fresh blackberries
- Sparkling water or lemonade
- Ice
- Fresh mint leaves (optional)
- A few thin apple slices for garnish

Method

1. Add the blackberries to a glass and gently crush them with the back of a spoon.
2. Fill the glass with ice.
3. Pour in the apple juice.
4. Top up with sparkling water or lemonade.
5. Garnish with apple slices, a few whole blackberries and fresh mint.

A simple, refreshing drink that's full of autumn flavour and perfect for enjoying after a crisp countryside walk



Autumn Events Around Oxfordshire

Waterperry Gardens Autumn Festival Weekend

3–4 October 2026

Waterperry Gardens, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire

Celebrate the harvest season with orchard tours, local food and drink, craft stalls, apple pressing demonstrations and family activities.



Oxford Apple Day

Sunday 18 October 2026 (expected)

South Parks, Oxford

A much-loved annual celebration of apples, orchards and local produce, featuring live music, food stalls, children's activities and traditional crafts.



Didcot Farmers' Market

Saturday 10 October & Saturday 14 November 2026

Cornerstone Arts Centre, Station Road, Didcot

Browse fresh local produce, artisan foods, baked goods and handmade gifts from Oxfordshire producers.



Abingdon Bonfire & Fireworks Spectacular

Saturday 14 November 2026

Abingdon Airfield, Barrow Road, Shippon, Abingdon, OX13 6JQ

One of the biggest fireworks events in the UK, featuring a huge bonfire, a spectacular 270° fireworks display choreographed to music, an immersive light and laser show, plus a large funfair and family entertainment. Gates open from 2:00pm, making it a fantastic evening out for all ages.

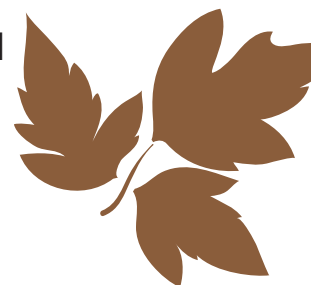


Waterperry Gardens Christmas Market

21–22 November 2026

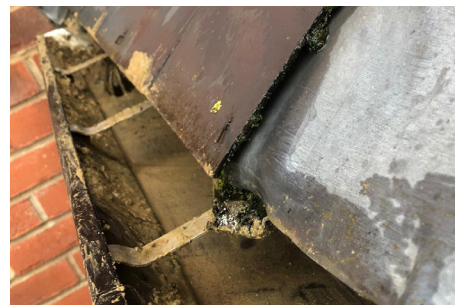
Waterperry Gardens, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire

Get into the festive spirit with over 100 artisan stalls, seasonal food and drink, gifts and Christmas decorations



Beyond Gutters — Preparing Your Whole Home for Winter

Autumn isn't just about clearing leaves. It's about protecting your property before the colder months arrive.



Here's how we can help:

- Gutter Clearing - Prevent blockages, overflowing gutters and water damage.
- Roof Cleaning & Moss Removal - Stop moss blocking gutters and prolong the life of your roof.
- Patio & Driveway Cleaning - Remove slippery algae and autumn staining.
- Window Cleaning - Keep your home brighter as daylight hours become shorter.
- Solar Panel Cleaning - Maximise efficiency throughout the darker months.
- Fascia & Soffit Cleaning - Restore the appearance of your home's roof line before winter.

Enjoy Autumn. We'll Prepare Your Home for Winter.

Autumn is all about crisp walks, colourful trees and cosy evenings indoors.

While you enjoy the changing seasons, we'll make sure your home is ready for everything autumn and winter can throw at it.

From sparkling windows to clear gutters and safe, clean driveways, we're here to keep your property looking its best all year round.



How well did you do?

Think you aced the quiz? For your chance to win a £25 M&S voucher, simply send us the number of answers you got right, along with your name, to our business WhatsApp: 01865704161. Don't have WhatsApp? No problem! Just email us your score and your name, and we'll enter you into the prize draw too. Good luck - we look forward to seeing who our Autumn Quiz Champion is!

Quiz Answers

1.B 2.A 3.B 4.B 5.B 6.True 7.B 8.D 9.D 10.A

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