

# Protect Your Satellite Antenna Investment and Improve Your Reception with a Satellite Antenna Cover

A satellite antenna cover will prevent loss of reception

and damage to your satellite antenna caused by hail and snow build-up. Covers also keep damaging heat and ultraviolet rays from deteriorating the reflective surface of your antenna, and from focusing unwanted heat on your dish's electronics. You can get all this protection without any loss of signal strength. Don't wait any longer to protect your dish from the sun and weather. A couple simple measurements is all that is needed to make custom covers.

## Covers Do Not Diminish Signal Strength

The question most often asked about dish covers is how much they affect the signal. The answer is that there is virtually no signal attenuation caused by the covers. By keeping the temperature of the LNB and of the reflective surface cooler, preventing damage to steel reflector panels or deterioration of fiberglass panels, and preventing snow or ice buildup, the overall performance of the antenna is improved.

## Cost Effective Commercial Covers

Covers have proven to be about 95% effective at eliminating snow and ice related problems with satellite antennas at a cost of about 10% of a full de-icing system. Assuming a de-icing system is 100% effective, a dish cover is about 9.5 times more cost effective than a de-icing system with very little maintenance and no operating costs. Add to that the benefits of limiting the amount of heat focused at the feedhorn and UV deterioration of fiberglass antennas, protection against hail damage and falling or flying debris, and you will find that a dish cover compares very favorably with de-icing. If it saves you just a couple trips per year to clear snow or ice you will find you have made a good investment.

# Durable Cover Material

Snow covers are made of a 12oz. or 15oz. polyester mesh fabric woven in a rip stop pattern, and double laminated with vinyl. The vinyl is completely impervious and naturally repellent to moisture, and the polyester mesh core provides tensile strength and tear resistance. Under normal conditions you can expect the cover to provide 5 to 7 years of trouble free convenience and hazard protection.

# PREVENTS Loss of Reception Due to Snow

When snow collects in the bottom portion of your uncovered satellite dish, the moisture content of the snow reflects the signal and prevents it from focusing properly on the feedhorn. When enough of the signal is scattered, the picture is lost. Also, the sheer weight of the snow often pulls the aim of the dish down below the satellite arc and picture quality is lost.

Repeated heavy snowfalls will stretch the panels of mesh and perforated dishes, reducing the accuracy of the reflective surface. Particularly heavy snowfalls will cause the panels to pop out of the channels, and can actually bend the mounts. The added weight of snow puts unnecessary stress on the actuator and motor, and can cause premature failure of either or both.

A satellite dish cover provides a more vertical surface, and the slick material combines with the effect of gravity to slide snow off the cover. Meanwhile, the satellite signal is allowed to pass through the material and properly focus on the feedhorn. A collection of pine needles, leaves or other debris in the dish will, when wet, have the same effect as snow.

#### PREVENTS Hail Damage

Metal dishes, particularly aluminum ones are especially susceptible to hail damage. Dish covers are tough but flexible and will absorb the force of most hail storms and leave the antenna unscathed.

#### PREVENTS Heat and Ultraviolet Rays from Focusing on the Electronics

In all dishes, a certain amount of the sun's heat and ultraviolet rays are focused back at the feedhorn, raising the temperature of the LNB, causing unwanted noise or interference in your picture, and thus accelerating the UV breakdown of the components. In light colored fiberglass antennas or solid metal antennas from which the paint has peeled this concentration of heat and UV is even worse. In extreme cases, the heat can actually melt the feedhorn components.

The sun is also brutal on the reflective surface of fiberglass antennas, oxidizing the protective coating and eventually turning the fiberglass to powder.

With a dish cover installed, the sun's energy is reflected directly back toward the sun and is not allowed to focus on the electronics while the satellite signal is allowed to pass through the cover and focus as it is intended. Dish covers take the brunt of the sun, eventually wearing out because of it, but saving the antenna in the process at a fraction of the cost of a new satellite antenna.



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