

# Frequently Asked Questions About Mold

## Q What kind of mold is in my house?

A Mold cannot be identified by sight and there are thousands of species of mold. The Inspector's job is to collect appropriate samples and have the lab analyze them. The lab results will tell you what kind of mold is presently growing in the premises

## Q How did the mold get in my house?

A Mold is everywhere and is not uncommon to find in a home. It enters the house through open doors or windows. Invisible mold spores can also be brought into the building on such items as damp cardboard boxes.

## Q Where does mold grow?

A Mold will grow in places where water intrusion may have occurred. Many building materials can encourage mold growth once they have become wet. Molds can also grow behind walls, cabinets, above ceilings and beneath floor coverings.

## Q How can I tell if there is mold in my home?

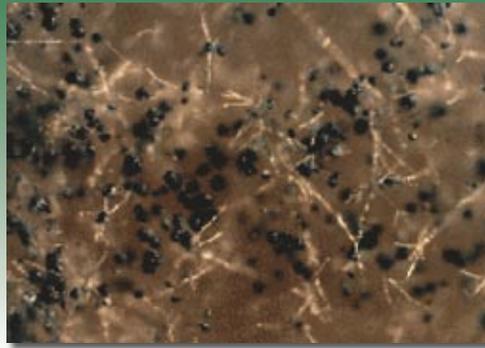
A Some mold problems are obvious, you will see it. Other mold problems may be identified by "red flags" such as a musty smell or visible water stains or your complaints of common allergic reactions.

## Q Can I stop mold from growing in my home?

A The Inspector will look for visible signs of water damage or moisture intrusion and condensation problems. Have these sources of water intrusion corrected and this will lessen the chances for mold growth. Mold activity can occur as soon as 24 hours after a water event.

## Q How do you test for mold?

A The Inspector will determine the correct sampling techniques needed to gather samples and which Laboratory will be used to do the analysis of your samples. The Inspector will provide you with a full report from the Laboratory and his findings.



**Molds can gradually destroy the things they grow on. You can prevent damage to your home and furnishings, save money and avoid potential health problems by controlling moisture and eliminating mold growth.**

## Learn More!

**Contact us today to find out how WE CAN HELP YOU**

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# Mold

## A Growing Problem



*Molds can be found anywhere and virtually grow on any substance*

*Protect your investment and your health...*

**Call us Today!**

# Why is Mold a problem today?

# Health and Mold

Since the 1970's, when there was a shortage of oil, home construction has changed dramatically. It is now common practice to heavily insulate homes, wrap the exterior with a vapor barrier, and create less ventilation from the outside air. This can cause the potential for mold growth if there is a water event. According to statistics from the Bureau of the Census, 35% of homes are damaged due to water or moisture yearly. With the wood, cellulose, and other organic materials used in buildings, this now provides a fertile platform for mold growth.

All buildings can be affected by excessive moisture. The source of the water intrusion must be identified and fixed to prevent further mold growth. Suspected visible mold growth can only be determined by Laboratory analysis for positive identification.

Identifying mold or mold problems should be done by a trained inspector who is knowledgeable in all factors of mold growth. A thorough inspection by our Professionals will identify all possible causes of mold growth within the premises. We can also take the appropriate samples for laboratory analysis of suspected mold growth.



**Mold is a fungus.** The main purpose of mold is to break down dead materials, like wood and fiber that are used in building materials. There are good molds and bad molds. Some molds are used in making antibiotics, beer, and cheese, for example, while other types of molds can cause serious health effects.

**Mold growth can start as soon as 24 hours** after a water event has occurred. Mold can often be seen in the form of a discoloration or a stain. When molds are present in large quantities, called colonies, they become a health concern. Some people are sensitive to molds. Exposure to molds can cause symptoms such as nasal stuffiness, eye irritation, wheezing, or skin irritation and can trigger Asthma episodes. Some people, such as those with serious allergies to molds, may have more severe reactions. Severe reactions may include fever and shortness of breath. Some people with chronic lung illnesses, such as obstructive lung disease, may develop mold infections in their lungs.

## Mold growth in a building is often hidden!

You may suspect hidden mold if the occupants are reporting health issues or there is a musty odor or history of water intrusion. Mold may be hidden in places such as the back side of dry wall, wallpaper, or paneling, the top side of ceiling tiles, the underside of carpets and pads. Other areas can be behind walls or above ceiling tiles where moisture has occurred or around windows and inside ductwork. There are many place for mold to "hide" and only a trained Inspector with the proper equipment can find these hiding places.



## Our Mission

Committed to providing the most thorough and comprehensive Mold inspection and testing available; using state-of-the-art assessment procedures and equipment to completely evaluate the air quality in your home or business and identify the sources of moisture and water intrusion that may be causing mold growth which can affect the property value and occupants health is our target.

- We offer both Residential and Commercial Services
- We are fully trained and certified in Mold inspection and Assessment
- The services provided are efficient, accurate and always completed in a timely and professional manner
- Culturable sampling methods are available to provide Health Care Professionals with the Speciation of molds found
- Once we have inspected your property we will provide you with a full report and laboratory findings