

M O L D

How do I get rid of mold?

- Identify and eliminate sources of mold.

 - Assess the magnitude of the contamination.

 - If the affected area is large, consider hiring an experienced contractor:
www.cdphe.state.co.us

 - Put on protective gear, clothing and rubber gloves.

 - Clean and dry moldy areas.

 - Bag & dispose of anything with moldy residue (i.e. rags, paper).

 - Work for short periods and rest in a location with fresh air.

 - Air out your home during and after the work.
-

What causes mold?

Mold will grow and multiply when the conditions are right – organic material + sufficient moisture = mold.

How do I know if my home has mold?

If you can see or smell mold, you likely have a problem. Check out discolored patches, cottony or speckled growth on walls or furniture, an earthy or musty odor and/or evidence of water damage.

What are the common sources of mold?

Plumbing leaks, humidifier, leaky roof, sprinkler spray that hits the house, overflow from sinks or sewers, damp basements or crawl spaces, and/or steam from showers or cooking.

Is mold dangerous?

Not always. Everyone is exposed to some mold on a daily basis. If mold contamination is extensive though, it can cause very high and persistent airborne spore exposures. Extensive exposure can cause health problems.

What are the common symptoms of mold exposure?

Respiratory problems (wheezing, shortness of breath), nasal and sinus congestion, eye irritation (burning, watery or reddened eyes), dry, hacking cough, nose or throat irritation, skin rashes or irritation. Many symptoms associated with mold exposure are also caused by other conditions.

Are some people more vulnerable to mold exposure?

Infants, young children, the elderly and persons with existing respiratory conditions, weakened immune systems such as those with HIV, undergoing chemotherapy or suffering from a chronic disease are more vulnerable.

Is it advisable to get my home tested for mold?

Reliable air sampling for mold can be expensive and the standards for acceptable levels of mold are uncertain. Mold detection and cleanup are usually considered a housekeeping task.