



Pride Cleaning and Restoration, Inc.

"Disaster Kleenup of Saint Louis"

2437 Lemp Ave St. Louis, MO 63104
Phone: (314) 664-8844
Fax: (314) 664-8822 Tax ID 04-3784029
info@priderestoration.com
www.priderestoration.com

How to Understand a Mold Inspection and Mold Remediation

Original article by By MeganK, eHow Member | eHow.com

Step 1

Mold can typically be found in damp areas of the home such as bathrooms, basements and crawl spaces, although any area that has constant moisture is susceptible to mold. This is usually the result of leakage, improper drainage and high humidity levels. If you suspect that your home has a mold problem you should have a mold inspection done. A mold inspection can pinpoint the mold and its causes and give you solutions to get rid of the problem.

Step 2

You have two options for mold inspection and testing. There are do-it-yourself kits for mold inspection that can be found at most home improvement centers and on a variety of web sites. While they are relatively inexpensive, they may not provide a comprehensive report of the mold issues your home is facing and you may be left with more questions than answers. A mold inspection and testing by a professional will be more thorough and complete. A certified mold inspector should do a mold inspection.

Step 3

If you are having a home inspection done, and want a mold inspection included, make sure they are also certified for mold inspection. Not all home inspectors are, so it is important that you verify this. If you only want a mold inspection you can have that done by an inspector that specializes strictly in mold inspection.



Full service restoration, including content cleaning, structure cleaning, and complete reconstruction.
Specializing in Fire and Water Damage Restoration
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
1-888-838-5868

PRIDE Cleaning and Restoration – Disaster Kleenup of Saint Louis
How to Understand a Mold Inspection and Mold Remediation

Step 4

Mold needs moisture to grow. During a mold inspection, the inspector will examine your house for problem areas that would promote mold growth. The inspector will check humidity levels, the foundation for leakage, potential drainage issues, and air quality. Samples of visible mold may be taken. The inspector will also have the tools and resources to look for and examine mold that cannot be seen behind the walls or in ducts.

Step 5

After you have a mold inspection, the inspector should discuss the results with you and answer any questions you may have. They will also identify the causes of the mold and can advise you on the best ways to correct those issues. You should also receive a written report detailing the inspector's methods for locating the mold, their determination as to the cause of the mold and their recommendation for removing the mold. The inspector will not clean the mold but can discuss the best methods for cleaning and removal, also called mold remediation.

Step 6

You may be able to clean small areas of mold yourself, such as the mold you might find in the shower, with bleach or detergent. However, if it is a large area of mold, usually defined as larger than three square feet, it is recommended that it be professionally cleaned so as not to release more mold into the air. If you clean a small area of mold but it comes back it should be professionally cleaned also. Professionals that specialize in mold remediation have the equipment to safely clean and dispose of the mold, which reduces the health risk to you, and of those living in the house. If you do choose to clean small areas of mold you should take precaution to protect yourself by wearing gloves, eye protection and a mask.

Step 7

If you are considering buying or selling a home you should always check for the presence of mold by having a mold inspection as part of your home inspection. Mold disclosure laws vary from state to state so check with your realtor.

The presence of mold in a house can greatly affect the asking price. As a seller, it is in your best interest to address the mold problem before selling your home. If you are a buyer and a mold inspection turns up a mold problem, it does not mean you need to reconsider buying the house. As long as the steps are taken to correct the issue you can feel confident in your purchase. You can ask the seller to fix the problem using a certified mold remediation company or you can offer less for the house and fix the problems yourself.

PRIDE Cleaning and Restoration – Disaster Kleenup of Saint Louis
How to Understand a Mold Inspection and Mold Remediation

-Step 8

To prevent mold in your house, you should examine areas prone to mold and fix any problems you find. It is important to address any moisture issues in your house immediately. It may be as simple as using a dehumidifier in damp areas or installing an exhaust fan in your bathroom. Other issues such as cracks in the foundation or drainage issues may take a little more work to correct, but it will be well worth it if it prevents mold from invading your house. In the case of burst pipes or flooding, it is essential that you act quickly and thoroughly to prevent mold. Items that are wet need to be dried completely, if not, they will encourage mold growth. Items that cannot be quickly and completely dried should be thrown away.

Step 9

Ignoring a mold problem will not make it go away. Prevent a small problem from getting bigger by getting to the bottom of it and addressing it quickly. If in doubt, have a mold inspection done. A mold inspection will provide you with the necessary information to identify and correct your mold issues. By addressing the underlying causes of the mold, you will be able to ensure that your home is safe and your health is protected from the affects of mold.

Step 10

If you need more information on mold, mold inspections and mold remediation in your area, contact your State Health Department, the Environmental Protection Agency or the Center for Disease Control