

Get Checked For Mold

Mold growth inside or underneath your home can be a serious issue that most experts recommend treating immediately.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), molds produce potentially harmful allergens, irritants and potentially toxic substances.

Inhaling or touching mold can cause allergic reactions in sensitive individuals, including sneezing, runny nose, red eyes and skin rash.

Molds can also cause asthma attacks for certain people, while also affecting the eyes, skin, nose, throat and lungs – even for people not allergic to mold.

IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEM

The cause of interior mold growth is

almost always traced back to moisture. And while it is impossible to rid your home of all mold and mold spores, according to the EPA, most can be eliminated by controlling indoor moisture.

If there is mold growth in your home and you choose to simply treat the mold without correcting the moisture issue, then you will likely continue to see mold issues within your home.

WHO SHOULD CLEAN MOLD?

If you or a mold inspector identified mold growing in your home, it is time to decide how to resolve the issue. Who should do the cleanup depends on a number of factors.

One consideration the EPA urges homeowners to weigh is the size of

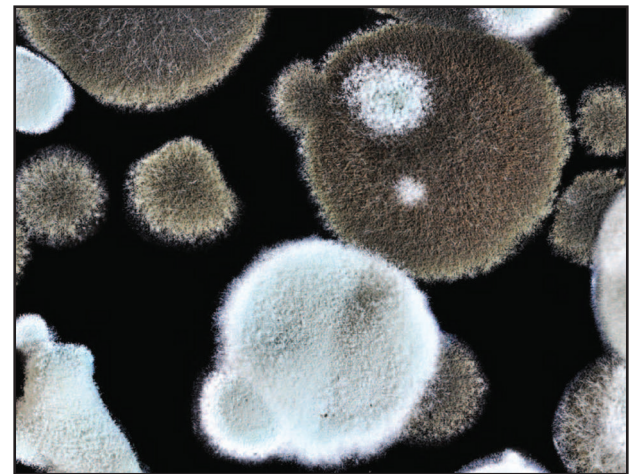
the mold problem. If the moldy area is less than about 10 square feet, the EPA states that homeowners can probably take care of the problem themselves with proper cleaning solutions and care.

GOING PROFESSIONAL

If you choose to hire a contractor or professional service provider, it is up to you to perform your due diligence to ensure you hire a reputable, respected business.

Make sure the contractor has experi-

ence cleaning up mold. Ask for references of past customers and ask the contractor if he or she will be following EPA recommendations, which can easily be found on the EPA's website.



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