

Mold Prevention Tips



Keep humidity in check

- Keep it below 50%. Mold thrives when humidity levels rise above 60%.
- Use a hygrometer in high-risk areas like basements, bathrooms, and laundry rooms.
- Install dehumidifiers in damp areas.
- Run your HVAC system regularly.
- Check for condensation on windows or pipes.

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Ventilate properly

- Turn on exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens every time you shower or cook.
- Open windows for at least 15 minutes a day if weather and air quality allow.
- Check dryer vents often
- In basements or attics, consider adding vents or a small fan to keep air circulating.



Fix leaks promptly

- Check under sinks, behind toilets, and around appliances monthly.
- Look for stains on ceilings or bubbling paint.
- Tighten connections or replace hoses on washing machines, dishwashers, and fridges every 5 years.
- If you suspect roof leaks, inspect your attic after heavy rainfall.



Ventilate Properly

- Dry spills, leaks, or flooding within 24–48 hours.
- Pull back carpet and baseboards if water has soaked through.
- Remove and discard waterdamaged ceiling tiles, insulation, or drywall if it can't be dried thoroughly.
- After a storm or flood, inspect the basement and run a dehumidifier immediately.



Mold-resistant materials

- If you're remodeling or finishing a basement, choose:
 - Mold-resistant drywall (also called "green board")
 - Anti-microbial paint additives
 - Moisture-resistant insulation
- In bathrooms, seal tile grout annually to prevent water intrusion behind tiles.



Direct water away

- Clean gutters every spring and fall (or more if you have overhanging trees).
- Add downspout extenders to direct water at least 5 feet away from the home.
- Make sure the soil around your home slopes away from the foundation.
- Watch for pooling water near the home after rain.



Maintain HVAC systems

- Replace air filters every 1–3 months (more frequently if you have pets or allergies).
- Clean drip pans and look for standing water or rust.
- Schedule annual HVAC inspections
- If you use a window AC unit, clean and dry the filters weekly during heavy use.

Looking for more mold resources?

Explore the sporecyte mold resource center.



sporecyte.com/mold-resources/

<u>final-analysis.com</u>

757 495 2300

Final Analysis provides mold and indoor air quality inspections and sampleing with next day laboratory analysis from Sporecyte