

Mold prevention cycle

Health Canada considers that mold growth in residential buildings may pose a health hazard.

1. MOLD PREVENTION

Mold needs moisture to grow. Controlling the moisture and keeping the house dry prevents the growth of mold.

Check your house for signs of moisture or mold. Find out if water is coming in from the outside or if lots of moisture is produced inside the house.

Check your house foundation, walls and roof for leaks. Check for plumbing leaks. If you find any, fix them.

Think of the different ways moisture is produced inside the house (for example, cooking, bathing). Remove the moisture as it is produced, by opening a window or using exhaust fans.

Reduce the amount of stored materials, especially items that are no longer used. Fabrics, paper, and wood for example, all collect dust and hold moisture.

For more information on how to prevent mold, please refer to Tab 1 of the accompanying binder.

1

Absence of mold

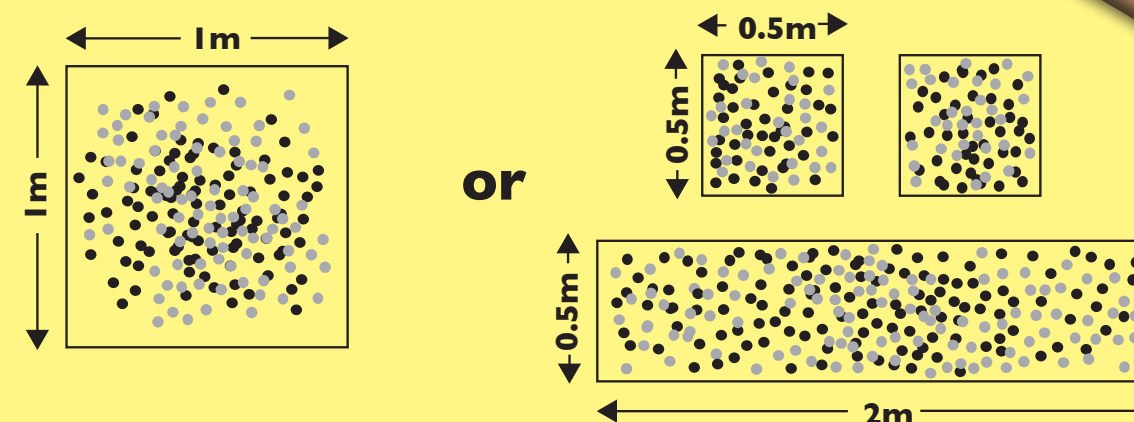
2. LIGHT DEGREE OF MOLD

Mold is considered to cover a small area if there are 3 or fewer patches of mold, each patch smaller than 1 square metre. Clean up small areas yourself using a detergent solution, household rubber gloves and a N95 dust mask for protection.

Small moldy areas in houses may become larger over time, if ignored, so it's important to clean up and remove even tiny patches of mold.

Note that asthmatic or allergic individuals should refrain from doing the cleaning.

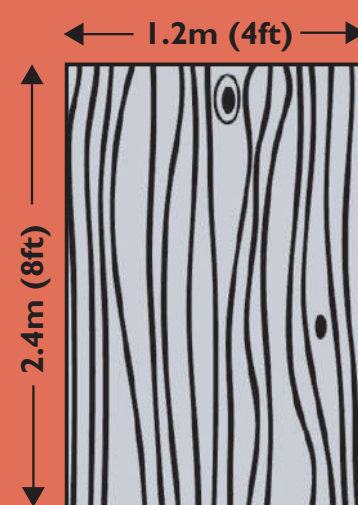
For more information on how to clean up small mold problems, please refer to Tab 2 of the accompanying binder.



Up to three patches of mold, each smaller than 1 square metre

2

4

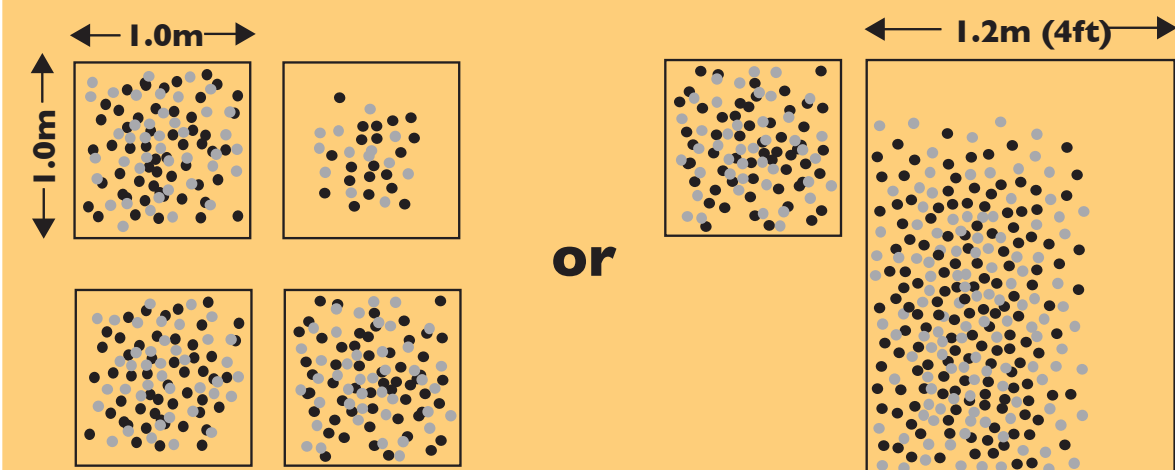


Area of mold is the size of a sheet of plywood or larger

4. ADVANCED STAGE OF MOLD

The mold area is considered large if a single patch of mold is larger than a standard piece of plywood or drywall. The house is extensively contaminated when there are many large patches of mold. Being exposed to this much mold is not a good idea. Do not attempt to clean up large areas of mold yourself. Contact your First Nation housing department or band.

For more information on cleaning up large areas of mold, please refer to Tab 4 of the accompanying binder.



There are more than three patches, each patch smaller than 1 square metre or there are one or more isolated patches, each patch smaller than 3 square metres.

3

3. MODERATE DEGREE OF MOLD

The mold area is considered moderate if :

a) there are more than 3 patches, each patch smaller than 1 square metre, or

b) there are one or more isolated patches, each patch smaller than 3 square metres. Patches close together should be considered as one patch. You may clean up moderate amounts of mold only if you follow the proper procedures and are able to get the proper protective equipment.

For more information on preparing the house for mold clean-up, please refer to Tab 3 of the accompanying binder.



Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada



Health Canada

Santé Canada

