



**California
Mold Services**
BREATHE EASY • LIVE PURE
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9 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MOLD



Mold is everywhere and helps break down organic material. **Tiny mold spores** are all around us, even in our homes. Most molds are **harmless**, but problems can arise when these spores grow in **damp areas** inside your home.

Scientists have identified over **100,000 types** of mold, most of which grow outside. Not all molds are **harmful**; some are even useful in making medicines. However, molds that grow indoors, like **Aspergillus** and **Penicillium** can be dangerous.



Mold grows well in damp places like **bathrooms** and **basements**. It can also hide behind walls. Mold doesn't grow on **non-organic** surfaces like **concrete**, but it can grow on **dust** or **dirt** that collects on these surfaces.

Mold can start growing within **24-48 hours** after water damage. It grows well on materials like drywall when there's moisture and **temperatures** between **77°-88°F**. So, it's important to deal with water damage quickly to stop mold from **spreading**.



Bleach or vinegar do not work well against mold because they only kill live mold but have no effect on mycotoxins. These products are **not effective on porous surfaces** and can add moisture, which helps mold grow. **Bleach, vinegar and water might make it come back faster.**

Don't paint over mold; it will not get rid of it. Paint won't fix moisture issues and mold can still grow in untreated areas. **Before painting the mold must be completely removed.** Mold resistant paints or additives are not recommended. **Those chemicals can be toxic as well.**



3 STEPS TO PRIORITIZE MOLD PREVENTION



Moisture Control

Using quality dehumidifiers and ensuring proper ventilation can lower humidity levels.

Improper use of **HVAC humidifiers** can increase the likelihood of **mold growth** due to excessive humidity. To ensure humidity remains at a healthy level (**30-50%**), choose **humidifiers** designed for individual rooms rather than whole-house humidifiers.



Leak Repair

Immediately repair any leaks and ensure areas are dry to reduce the risk of mold growth.

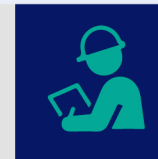
Effectiveness of **UV-C light** in eliminating mold is restricted to surfaces that are **directly exposed** for extended periods. Routine maintenance of HVAC systems, including cleaning and changing filters, proves to be both **more efficient and economical**. Use filters rated at **MERV 13** or higher.



Professional Remediation

Certified remediation is crucial for addressing extensive issues and significant problems.

Homeowners insurance usually covers mold damage only in certain situations. If mold grows because of **events** like fires or **flooding**, the insurance will likely cover it. But if mold appears due to poor maintenance or **neglect**, the **insurance** probably won't cover it.



Mold can damage your home's structure, and the CDC has found high mold levels can cause breathing issues and long-term health problems. Use only proven and affordable methods to manage mold. Learn the facts to save money and keep your home and workplace healthy and safe.