

TOTALTEST

Homeowner's Mold Risk Assessment Guide

Professional Testing at DIY Prices — Trusted by 1,400+ Homeowners

This quick self-assessment helps you determine if your home needs professional mold testing.

In just 5 minutes, you'll know the warning signs and exactly what to do next.

| | | |
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| 99.7% Lab Accuracy | 48 Hours Results Time | 90% Cost Savings |
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[Total-test.com](https://total-test.com)

Part 1: Mold Risk Self-Assessment

Walk through your home and check off any conditions that apply. Each checked item increases your mold risk and indicates the need for professional testing.

Attic, Roof & Ceilings

- Past roof leaks, even small ones that were repaired
- Dark spots, stains, or discoloration on rafters or insulation
- Poor ventilation, dampness, or persistent musty smell
- Water stains on ceilings in any room

Bathrooms

- Visible discoloration around tubs, showers, sinks, or toilets
- Peeling paint, bubbling wallpaper, or soft drywall
- Exhaust fan doesn't work or isn't used regularly
- Grout that's darkened or shows black spots

Kitchen & Laundry

- Water stains under sinks or around appliances
- Leaks from dishwashers, refrigerators, or washing machines
- Musty odors near cabinets, behind appliances, or in flooring
- Warped wood or soft spots in cabinetry

HVAC System & Air Ducts

- Musty or moldy smell when AC or heat turns on
- Visible dust, debris, or dark growth around air vents
- Air filters aren't changed regularly (monthly in summer)
- Moisture buildup on AC unit or drip pans

Living Areas & Bedrooms

- Persistent condensation on windows, especially in winter
- Discolored patches on walls, baseboards, or ceilings
- Carpets or flooring that have been wet in the past
- Musty smell in closets or storage areas

Basement & Crawlspace

- Visible water damage, flooding, or standing water
- Efflorescence (white, chalky deposits on concrete)
- High humidity levels or dampness that doesn't go away
- Exposed insulation with dark spots or odors

YOUR RISK ASSESSMENT

0-2 boxes checked: Low risk — Continue monitoring

3-5 boxes checked: Moderate risk — Testing recommended

6+ boxes checked: High risk — Immediate testing advised

Why Professional Lab Testing Matters

Not all mold is the same. Some species are harmless, while others produce mycotoxins that can cause serious health problems. Without professional testing, you're guessing — and guessing wrong can be expensive and dangerous.

What You Get With Total Test

Exact Species Identification — Know precisely what type of mold you have (we identify 100+ species)

Toxicity Analysis — Determine if it's dangerous (toxic mold like *Stachybotrys*) or harmless

Spore Count Levels — Understand the severity of contamination and health risk

Professional Action Plan — Clear next steps based on your specific results (DIY cleaning vs. professional remediation)

Insurance-Approved Reports — Documentation accepted by insurance companies, doctors, and real estate transactions

The Total Test Difference

We partner with the same AIHA-accredited laboratories that \$1,500 inspectors use. You get identical scientific analysis at 90% less cost. Every report is reviewed by licensed mold inspectors — not automated software.

| | Cheap Kits | Total Test | Inspector |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Price | \$10-50 | \$149 | \$550-1,500 |
| Species ID | X | ✓ | ✓ |
| Toxicity Testing | X | ✓ | ✓ |
| Lab Certified | X | ✓ AIHA | ✓ |
| Results Time | 5-10 days | 48 hours | 3-5 days |
| Insurance Accepted | X | ✓ | ✓ |

Part 2: Mold Prevention Best Practices

These proven, low-cost actions can dramatically reduce your risk of mold growth. Prevention is always cheaper than remediation.

- ✓ **Control humidity:** Keep indoor humidity under 50% year-round with a dehumidifier (especially in basements and bathrooms)
- ✓ **Ventilate properly:** Run exhaust fans during and for 30 minutes after showers, cooking, and laundry. Open windows when possible
- ✓ **Maintain HVAC systems:** Replace filters monthly during summer and every 2-3 months in winter. Schedule annual professional tune-ups
- ✓ **Fix leaks immediately:** Repair roof, plumbing, or appliance leaks within 24-48 hours. Mold can begin growing in just 24 hours
- ✓ **Direct water away:** Keep gutters clean and ensure downspouts drain at least 6 feet from your foundation
- ✓ **Inspect after storms:** Check attics, basements, and crawlspaces for water intrusion after heavy rain or snow
- ✓ **Use mold-resistant products:** When renovating, choose mold-resistant drywall and paint for bathrooms, kitchens, and basements
- ✓ **Dry wet items quickly:** Don't leave wet towels, clothes, or carpet padding sitting. Dry everything within 24 hours

Part 3: What To Do If You Spot Mold

If you see or smell mold, take these immediate steps to protect your health and prevent further spread:

- ⚠️ **DON'T use bleach or scrub it:** Bleach only hides surface mold and doesn't address the root cause. Scrubbing releases spores into the air
- ⚠️ **DON'T disturb visible mold:** Touching, vacuuming, or cleaning mold releases potentially toxic spores throughout your home
- ⚠️ **Isolate the affected area:** Close doors and seal vents to reduce spore spread. Turn off fans and AC in that area
- ⚠️ **Stop the moisture source:** Fix any active leaks immediately. Use dehumidifiers to lower humidity below 50%
- ⚠️ **Test before you act:** Professional testing identifies the mold type, toxicity level, and extent of contamination — critical for choosing the right response
- ⚠️ **Get professional guidance:** Your test results include a detailed action plan. Small patches (< 10 sq ft) of non-toxic mold can sometimes be cleaned yourself. Larger areas or toxic mold requires professional remediation

⚠️ HEALTH WARNING

If you experience persistent respiratory issues, headaches, fatigue, or allergic reactions that improve when you leave home, seek medical attention and test your home immediately. Some mold species produce mycotoxins that can cause serious health problems.

Your Next Step: Professional DIY Testing

This checklist is your first line of defense, but only professional lab testing can confirm what's in your home and give you the expert guidance you need for a healthy living environment.

How Total Test Works

1. Order Online — Get instant access to your testing portal with step-by-step video instructions

2. Swab & Ship — Takes just 5 minutes using everyday household items (cotton swab, zip bag, marker). Prepaid FedEx label included

3. Get Lab Results — Receive your complete professional report within 48 hours with clear action plan

What's Included For \$149

- ✓ 2 Professional Lab Samples (test multiple areas)
- ✓ Exact Species Identification (100+ types)
- ✓ Complete Toxicity Analysis
- ✓ Spore Count & Contamination Levels
- ✓ Health Risk Assessment
- ✓ Inspector-Reviewed Action Plan
- ✓ Insurance-Approved Documentation
- ✓ Free Lab Shipping (Prepaid FedEx Label)
- ✓ 48-Hour Results Guarantee
- ✓ 100% Satisfaction Guarantee
- ✓ Additional samples available for purchase

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

We're so confident in our testing accuracy that if you're not completely satisfied with your report, we'll refund your purchase — no questions asked.

Ready to Get Answers?

Join 1,400+ homeowners who chose professional testing at DIY prices



No waiting for kits • No strangers in your home • Results in 48 hours

 VISIT OUR WEBSITE 

WWW.TOTAL-TEST.COM