



This test report contains the following sections: FAQ

What does the rating system mean?

Mold is a normal part of our environment, and mold spores can settle out of the air into accumulated dust. This can cause 'minor' ratings of several different types of mold to appear even in a typical house dust sample, and these may not necessarily be a cause for concern. However, a 'heavy' rating may indicate that the sample was taken from a source of mold. Below are the exact criteria for each rating:

- 'No mold detected' means that the sample submitted did **not** contain a detectable level of mold.
- 'Minor' means that the technician observed 1 or fewer structures of mold per field of view under the microscope.
- 'Moderate' means 1 to 3 structures of mold were detected per field of view.
- 'Heavy' means greater than 3 structures were detected per field of view.

Always take into consideration the sample as a whole when interpreting results. It is important to also consider the types of mold detected and the location the sample was taken.

How do I learn more about the types of mold listed on my report?

Each report comes with its own mold dictionary, called the Glossary. Simply scroll to the Glossary section of your report and each mold type is listed alphabetically. There you'll find helpful information about each mold type.

Do I have the Black Mold?

Usually when a customer asks this question he/she is referring to Stachybotrys. Although Stachybotrys is black in color, so are many other types of mold. Do not discount the importance of other types of mold listed on your report simply because you do not see the word Stachybotrys or Black mold. For more about 'black mold', visit our website at: <https://www.moldlab.com/black-mold>

How do I get rid of it?

Many molds are allergens and some may be toxigenic. Disturbing the mold with cleaning methods increases the chances of exposure to the particulate. Mold clean up and disposal methods vary greatly from company to company. A good rule of thumb is that if the contaminated area is small and the material is non porous, such as metal, it can be cleaned by traditional methods, taking care to use personal protective equipment. Porous materials on the other hand, such as wood, textiles, or sheetrock, are difficult to clean because of the microscopic holes in the material. The 'root-like' structures of the mold called hyphae/mycelia can grow down into the holes and make it hard to clean effectively. The surface will appear clean but as soon as conditions are favorable the mold can start to grow again. Here is a link to the EPA mold help guide: <https://www.epa.gov/mold/brief-guide-mold-moisture-and-your-home>

Can we still live here?

There are no established 'safe' levels of mold, just as there are no established 'unsafe' levels of mold, and individuals have different resistances and reactions to mold. Persons that are most likely to be adversely affected by mold exposure are: children, elderly, immunocompromised, and persons with respiratory disorders. If you suspect you are experiencing adverse health effects as a result of mold, please consult a medical professional. Please note that Moldlab, Ltd. is not a medical, or clinical laboratory and we do not offer medical consulting or advice.

Tech Notes:

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