

Mould Home Test Kit – Instructions for conducting the Circulating Air Room Test

Contents of the Mould Home Test Kit

- Instructions for use
- Mould Settle Plates (kit contains 2, 4 or 6 plates depending on kit ordered)
- Protective plastic bags for settle plates
- Settle plate labels
- Rubber bands

Test Instructions –Preparation

After identifying the rooms you wish to test ensure that all windows and doors remain closed for twenty four hours and do not vacuum or sweep. If the kitchen is to be tested ensure that any food waste is removed. It is also a good idea to perform a test outside as this will let you know if you have an internal problem or if the indoor air quality is the same as the outside.

Conducting the Circulating Room Test

- Unwrap the test kit to be used, fill in one of the supplied labels and stick it on the lid of the settle plate ensuring that the settle plate lid is not removed at this stage. This allows for identification of the room and date in which the test was carried out
- Select a suitable position for the settle plate making sure it is elevated i.e. a table or cabinet top. If possible the settle plate should be in the centre of the room
- Remove the lid of the settle plate placing the lid face down at the side of the settle plate. Take care not to touch the surface of the agar within the settle plate
- Let the settle plate stand for a period of 1 hour and do not enter the room during this time, keeping all windows and doors closed
- After 1 hour replace the lid being careful not to touch the surface of the agar. Secure the lid with the rubber band provided and then place in the plastic bag provided ensuring the bag is sealed
- Place the test kit in a dark area out of sunlight and at room temperature i.e. a cupboard or drawer. When incubating make sure that the lid is at the top
- Store the test kit for up to 7 days. At days 3, 5 evaluate the kit noting the number of distinct mould colonies that have grown on the evaluation sheet provided. Perform a final evaluation at day 7.

Counting the colonies

The colonies you are looking for when performing the test are furry in appearance which are indicative of mould. In addition only coloured colonies should be counted e.g. green, black or grey and the diameter of the colonies should be at least a couple of mm in diameter. There may be white colonies and also small colonies present which appear slimy or shiny; they should be discounted as secondary contamination (see example images).

Disposal of Test Kit

When testing is complete the test kit can be disposed in your normal waste