

Ways to prevent black mold from growing

- Fix leaks in your roof or walls to reduce moisture
- Clean the bathroom regularly to prevent mold and mildew
- Make sure your rain gutters are clean and not blocking water drainage
- Control the humidity levels
- Keep fabrics and surfaces dry
- Install moisture barriers and mold inhibitors to paints
- Deal with any flooding promptly
- Use exhaust fans in the kitchen and bathroom or open a window to improve ventilation



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Black Mold



What is black mold?

Stachybotrys chartarum (*S. Chartarum*) also known as black mold is a type fungus that looks like black stains or dots growing in irregular circular patterns.

Why is mold growing?

When homes or buildings have been exposed to excessive amounts of water or humidity for an extended period of time. Mold thrives in warm, frequently moist environments including: baths, showers, toilets, kitchens, and basements. Mold grows better in humid climates. Mold can also grow on wood, dirt, or paper.

Can mold cause health problems?

Black mold weakens immune systems and can cause negative reactions in people with asthma. Symptoms of mold exposure include: coughing, wheezing, nose stuffiness, skin rash, sore throat, red or itchy eyes.



How to get rid of black mold?

It is impossible to get rid of mold completely since mold spores can be found floating through the air. However, if mold is growing in your house don't wait to get rid of it because this will only give the mold more time to cause further damage to the building. Remove and discard soft or porous materials, such as carpets, insulation, or wallboard that show signs of mold. Exit the home if conditions worsen or you notice impacts to your health. Contact a professional if there is extensive mold growth in the home or if allergic reactions occur.