

MOULD FACT SHEET

Mould experts have confirmed over-heated, poorly-ventilated properties become a breeding ground for mould. "Mould requires moisture, oxygen, humidity and an organic surface to thrive"

Mould is typically found in any humid place in a room. You will commonly find it in wardrobes, behind bedheads or under dressing tables. It also loves shoe racks and stored-away clothes.

How Mould Grows

Many of us are creating the perfect conditions for mould, without even realising it; cranking up our heaters and hanging out wet washing indoors can contribute to a perfect mould-growing environment.

When the air temperature is cooler outside, condensation builds up inside. Simply opening windows to create ventilation in the house for an extended period can make a big difference. At a very minimum make sure to wipe down/dry the condensation regularly.

Using a dehumidifier in the house can help reduce the moisture in the property. Drawing curtains and blinds so that rooms are exposed to sunlight is also another effective preventer of mould.

In your wardrobe, moisture absorbing buckets filled with crystals soak up the damp, which you can find at supermarkets.

Ensuring clothes are completely dry before putting them away is also essential.

How to Clean Mould

According to the Australian Department of Health, these are the best ways to treat mould:

Do not dry brush the mould. This could release spores into the air, which can spread it and cause an allergic reaction in some people.

Use Tea Tree Oil: two teaspoons in a spray bottle with two cups of water

Use an 80 per cent white vinegar solution (available from supermarkets) for surfaces. Leave it for at least 20 minutes and then lightly sponge with clean water

Make sure you remove the mould physically. (Killing, but not removing the mould may allow it to grow back)

Don't rely on bleach. Depending on the product, bleach can just bleach the colour out of the mouldy area without killing it. Vinegar and alcohol are more effective.

Always wear a mask and gloves whilst cleaning mould.

It is important to understand that it is reasonable for a landlord to expect tenants to follow the above guidelines and information to prevent, manage and clean mould.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding mould in your property please contact your Property Manager to discuss.

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