Get to Know the Black Mold Killers!

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The presence of toxic mold is a nightmare for many homemakers since mold only requires less than 2 days for germination to take place. When removing black mold from your house, you will be required to incorporate both long term and short term methods since spores can be airborne and thus can reproduce later on. Long term methods aim at averting the source of moisture such as that from leaks, improper air conditioning and infrequent cleaning.

All surface mold, dead mold and dead mold spores are removed using products such as borax, bleach, hydrogen peroxide, ammonia, vinegar, grapefruit seed extract, detergent, tea tree oil and, baking soda. Before embarking on mold removal, you should remove all absorbent material like ceiling or wood since they will be destroyed by the detergents and solutions that you plan on using. Also ensure that the area is well ventilated to avoid fumes emanating from products such as bleach.

For long term mold removal from surfaces such as tiles glass, bathtubs, wood, concrete, and countertops, just use bleach. Bleach is the most appropriate solution as there is no penetration into the porous materials that can occur. A cup of bleach for every gallon of water will work here. Apply this solution using a cloth or a spray bottle onto the affected area.

Distilled vinegar is a natural and safe solution as it is able to kill most of the mold permanently. Vinegar should be sprayed on such a moldy-looking surface and allowed to stay for about one hour. Later on, use a wet cloth to dry off the area. Tiled bathroom floors should be moped with vinegar to prevent mold formation.

Ammonia is most effective in killing mold found on surfaces that are both hard and non-porous but is ineffective on wood or drywall since these are porous materials. Use of hydrogen peroxide to kill mold is also favored by many people as no toxic residue is left. You can use hydrogen peroxide on floors, kitchen appliances, clothes, walls and bathroom fixtures. The items should be rinsed well then dried in the sun. Avoid using the clothes dryer since heat from the dryer makes spots harder to remove.

Tea tree oil is another mold killer; apply tea tree oil at the ratio of 1 teaspoon per cup of water and spray this on the moldy surface then scrub off the mold. The tea tree oil solution can be re-used as it does not lose its potency quickly.

Use very little water when removing mold from upholstery, mattresses and rugs. These should be cleaned by brushing off the mold then applying a light upholstery shampoo. Wiping should be done using a damp cloth after which drying should be done in the sun or using a fan. Keep all material completely dry and visibly free of mold before reusing it.

For future mold control, you should ensure that the rooms have little or no moisture by using fans and dehumidifiers. When leaks occur, dry up the area immediately. Minimize dust in the home as much as possible using an air purifier since mold spores use dust as their primary means of transportation.

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