



O²Wizard – Mold & Odors

A Picture Guide to Spotting Mold & Mildew

*“When it’s dry –
it’s pollen. When
it gets wet, it
becomes mold.”*

We frequently are asked, **“How do I know if it’s mold?”** and **“Is it REALLY that bad?”** The signs are endless as seen in our **collection of pictures** taken throughout the years. It will help you find evidence of bacteria, mold, mildew, and water intrusion that (in most cases) fuels microbial growth. You decide how bad it is!

Glossary:

- 1. More common signs of mold** - Beginning stages of mold growth seen in many homes and businesses with Sick Building Syndrome. **Most mold is microscopic.** Left undisturbed you may eventually see the excrement (or potty) of larger colonies.
- 2. HVAC units, Vents, Returns & Exhaust fans:** with Dust / mold coming out
- 3. Kitchen & Bathrooms** - Caulking, grout & silicone shrinking, cracking, discoloring, drying out, pulling away, etc.
- 4. Windows & sills** with moldy dust and signs of leaks

5. **Walls** with discoloration, warping, loosening edges, signs of damage, leaks and/or repairs
6. **Ceilings, rafters & beams**
7. **Floors, flooding & baseboards**
8. **Cabinets, doors, & drawers**
9. **Furniture, cloths & household items**
10. **Rust & corrosion** is a form of mold

“I’ve lost loved ones from living in homes with a musty smell within 3-5 years of moving in.”

Kimi Ayers

Note: New roof, repairs, renovations, painting, etc. can be a result of water and/or mold damage being repaired or camouflaged.

1. More common signs of mold



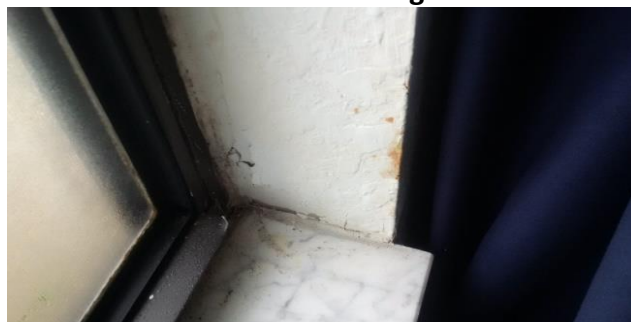
Bleach is a whitener, not a mold/mildew killer. That’s why the discoloration returns.



Grout & Caulking being devoured by mold



Condensation feeds microbial growth



Most household dust comes from mold *eating & excreting* in your home. Homes treated by O² Wizard typically have less dust.

How affective are **UV lights** in the A/C? We treat countless homes each year for client that have them installed like this one. Many put out harmful chemicals that make people sick. They reduce mold on HVAC coils but does NOT kill it through the house. A/C are often mold producers.



Stains under sinks



Unexplained spots popping up. Only O² Wizard can clean up what is floating in the air



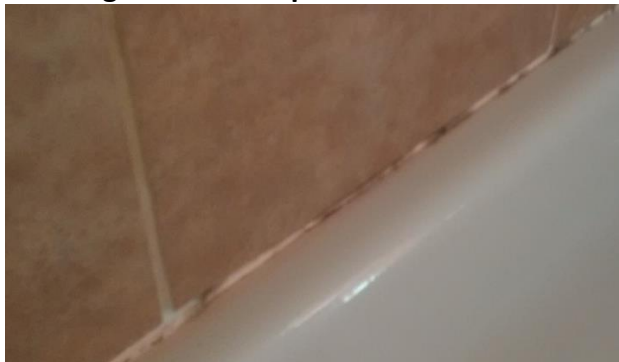
40% of home have had moisture intrusion that (in most cases) grows mold



A roof leak created a spot on the ceiling and warped paneling



Due to the higher moistures in showers & tubs, it is where the first signs of mold & mildew often occur. Grout discoloring, cracking, shrinking and pulling away is mold destroying it and allowing water to seep in.



Mold collects on the A/C return



What collects on the A/C (HVAC) return (above) and filter (below) also collects in your lungs. This dirty/moldy filter puts a bigger strain on the HVAC unit and can shorten the life of it. Mold often grows on the outside of the HVAC units too. High quality filters also put a bigger strain on HVAC's. After an O² Wizard, we suggest using the green filters – less strain!



Note: Think about how each piece of building material originally looked. Changes are a sign of microbial growth and water damage.

“All mold is bad! The black Stachybotrys is the most aggressive with destroying your health.”

2. HVAC Units, Vents, Returns & Exhaust fans

Look inside all vents with a flashlight to search for mold. Disturbing live spores causes them to spew out and release poisonous toxins.



No A/C for 1-2 weeks is ample time for mold to start growing in a home.





Mold often grows in and/or around the HVAC (A/C) and in the ducts



A water leak in an A/C ran down the wall & pipes



Mold around A/C unit



A/C Wall unit drain got clogged



One drip per minute can fill a pool in year. Hot water heaters and other water appliances can leak.



This handle had so much corrosive mold actually split the faucet handle





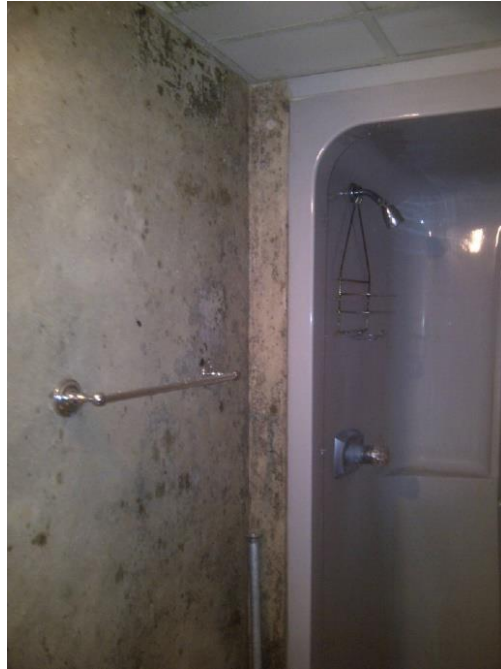
Before and After with O² Wizard Clean Up





This bathroom tested negative (no) mold. Labs test for the top 12-20 of the most common molds. There are 1000's of molds.





The old floor of a kitchen cabinet (under the sink) is recovered with another piece of wood hiding the destruction.



4. Windows & Sills

Most mold is surface mold and can be cleaned up with our Oxygenating process. This wall shows our before, during and after clean up – no paint, just cleaning.



Cleaning live mold can make you VERY sick



Check behind curtains, blinds and undisturbed areas.



This wall is coming apart





The brown paint is falling off the walls from painting over issues



Condensation dripped down, loosened the wallpaper and ate away the baseboard.



This glass wall had mold growing inside the glass blocks.



5. Walls

Check around pipes



Moisture meter shows high levels of dampness on this discolored wall.



Panels or wall repairs are often due to repairing plumbing leaks. Bathroom plumbing is on the other side of this closet wall. The bathroom flooding caused mold growth on the cloths in the closet 6 months later. Mold is more often slow growing.



Dark green mold & yellow mold on wall & baseboard



Yellow and green mold on the baseboard



Mold can actually eat away a home as seen in this hole in the wall



Mold loves wallpaper paste - peek behind a loose edge with a flashlight. Do not pull it off until O² Wizard treats it.



Mold spots on wallpaper



A crack in a wall allows moisture to seep in

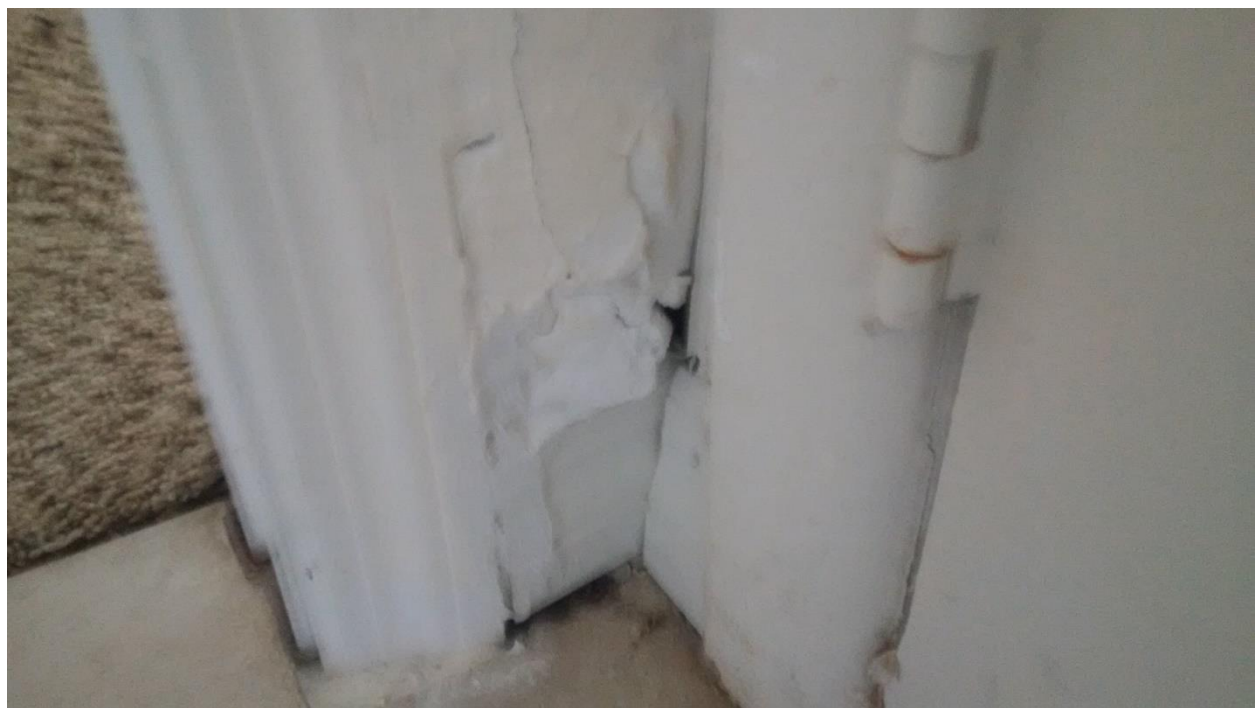




Look for signs water damage on walls that eventually grows mold – it bubbles up, especially if it is painted over.



Covering up mold can become a bigger mess when it peels off a wall (above & 4 pics below)





Grey mold



White paint over red brick is being eaten away by grey mold.



Gold mold on a brick wall painted white.



Red mold



Mold is decaying paneling



A mobile home with white, green & black mold



Roof leak trickled down the wall



In these 2 pictures we found food wrappers & empty beer bottles left in some of the walls from when this apartment was originally constructed 50 years ago.



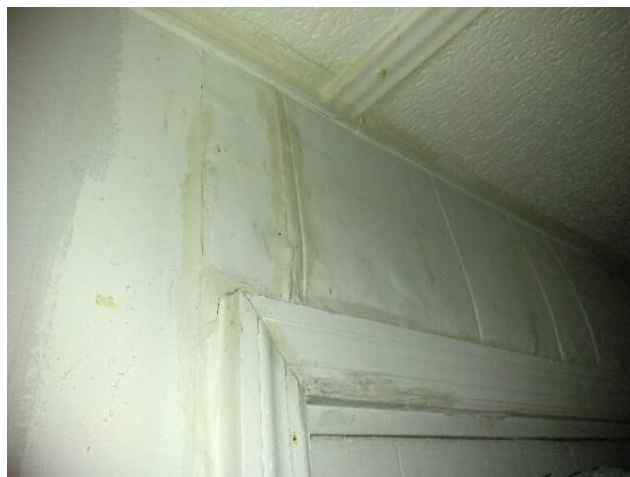
Black mold that grew mold behind sheetrock below a window in a 2 story home



Mold is a WDO - wood destroying organism



Cracks in a patched wall allowed water to seep into this mobile home



This closet was a disaster we cleaned up



Some amazing pictures of mold below





Blue mold behind a kitchen cabinet with the sink



A shower taken out revealed a beautiful landscape like design of white mold on a dark background.



Note: I talked to 3 people that experienced Plug-in fires. I suggest they be removed. Fragrance masking can be used to cover up poisonous odors including cigarette/smoke, pet, sour, musty, (old home smell), pesticides, and more. O² Wizard destroys these odor and the harmful toxins.



“When home hunting be aware of fragrance masking.”

6. Ceilings, Rafters & Beams





This ceiling leak created a big fuzzy ball of black mold





Red mold



Signs of patching or repairs may be from a previous problem that can produce mold



Grey mold



Moisture is loosening up the ceilings in several pictures below



Sheet rock tape is coming loose on edges of walls from moisture intrusion traveling down the seam.





Rust colored mold





Green mold



Grey circles





Mold is eating away at this beam



A roof leak can start in one area, travel down rafters (2x4's) and show up inside the home on different parts of the ceiling or on walls. Black and white mold growth seen here.



White mold



**The roof leak was taken care of but the inside was not address.
The damage got worse & worse over 1 year.**



The water damage caused this ceiling to come down



Moisture caused these fan blades to droop down and grow mold



Attics commonly have less mold than inside the home in warmer climates as long as it has adequate airflow. People often think they are sick from mold in an attic or crawl space. They are like an upstairs or downstairs neighbors. It's the (invisible spores) 'in' the house that will affect you the most!



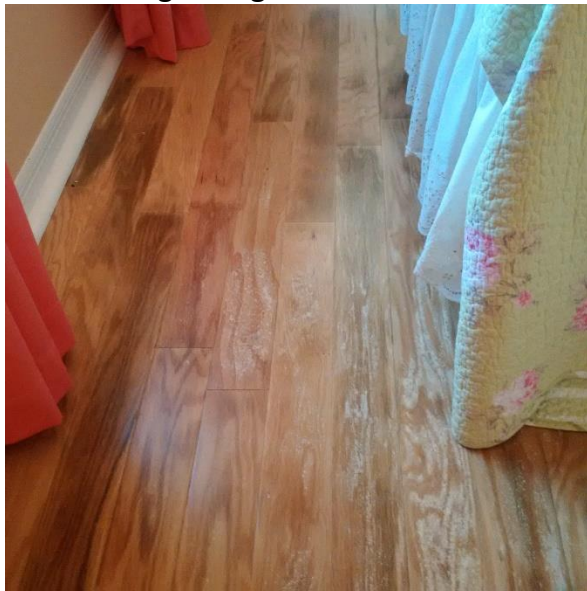
7. Floors, flooding & baseboards

Grout eroded away by mold, water seeped in and loosened these floor tiles





Black mold growing on a wood floor



“Mother nature takes back what is hers.” Mold is rotting these plywood and beams under this carpet in a mobile home.



Wood floor is bowing up in the center with white mold in cracks



Wood planks are warping up on the sides



Moisture is loosening the laminate floor



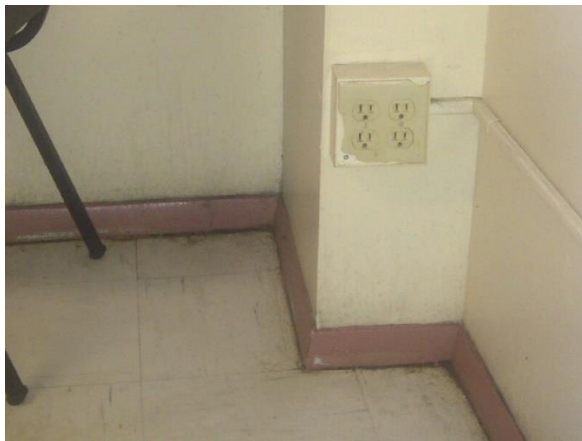
This wet floor eventually grew mold. O² Wizard was able to save it!



Bacteria comes from people, pets or food. It can easily grow into mold and create odor.



Microscopic mold floats around, eats, secretes, and the fecal matter is much of the dust in most homes - as seen on these baseboards.



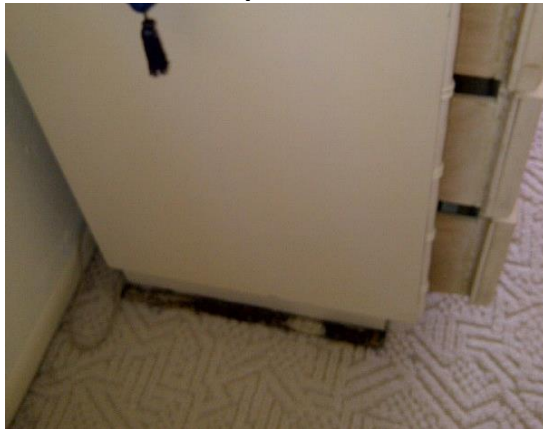
Moisture in a carpet grew red mold in the carpet and under the legs of the chest



Re-occurring stains in carpets



Some stains in carpets we can fix



Mold ate a hole through the floor



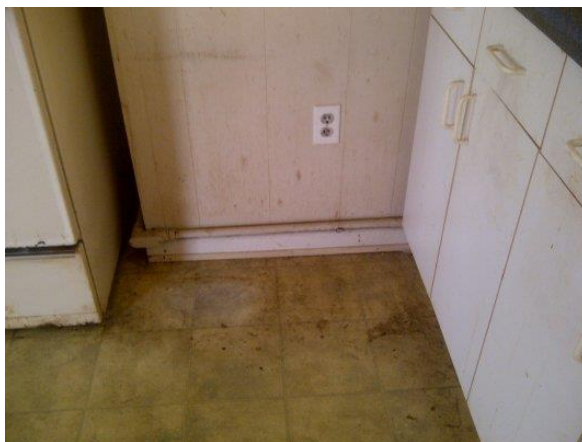
White, pink and grey mold on concrete



Black mold on a terrazzo floor and the paneling is separating



Mold eats away at the woods finish and changes the color



Carpet tack strips grow mold under carpet



“Ashes to Ashes Dust to Dust”
Molds job is to take things back to
the dust of the earth – including you!
See 200 mold related health issues at
o2wizard.com

8. Cabinets, doors, drawers

Light green mold dust on cabinet door



White mold inside the cabinet



White mold dust on furniture



Mold hides in louver doors



Green mold in a drawer



Yellow mold on door



Door separating full of olive green mold



Orange mold in kitchen





9. Furniture, Cloths & Household Items

Mold starts out as a little dust and can grow & grow



Cream colored mold covers this green leather love seat



White mold on fabric



Green mold dust





Mold hides behind furniture like this dresser



Another dresser







O² Wizard, experts in extreme cleans, has saved so much furniture throughout the years!













Fabric stains & pits



Mold can cause things in your home to disintegrate



White mold on utensils

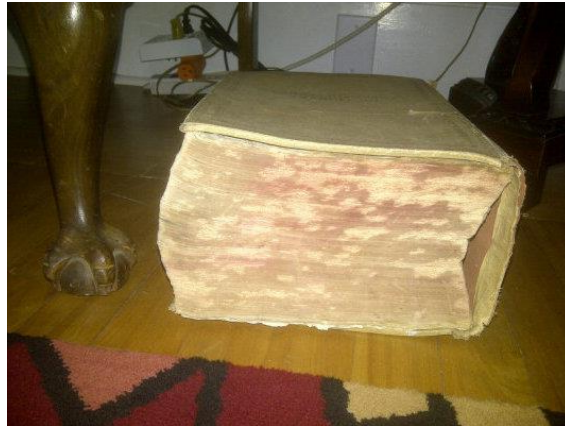


Mold loves paper and boxes





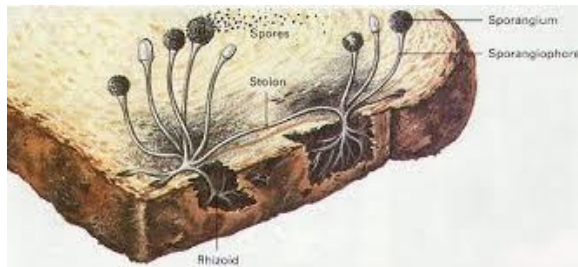
Red mold is eating away the gold on the edges of these pages on this historic book



Mold comes in a large variety of colors and textures.

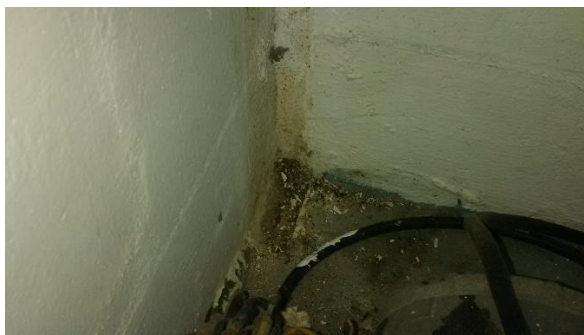


**Is it safe to eat moldy food or just cut off the affected areas? NO!
It has fingers that spread internally. Throw it away!**



10. Rust & Moldy Corrosion:

Rust is a form of mold





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