

FLOOD FACTS

Removing Mould After a Flood



Mould can quickly grow after a flood, causing serious health problems.



Wear gloves and face mask to check for mould on surfaces (like drywall, carpet backing, wallpaper, baseboards, etc.) and in hidden areas (like crawl spaces, attics, etc.).

Consider other hazards like asbestos and lead before cleaning/removing anything.



You may need to have your home professionally cleaned for it to be covered by insurance. Check first with your insurance provider.

For large areas (100+ sq. feet) with mould, hire a mould cleaning/removal professional.



Use a vacuum with a High-Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter to clean surfaces/materials next to mould growth to remove any spores.

After cleaning, ensure all areas and surfaces are dry and visibly free from mould, dust, and debris. Your HVAC system should also be cleaned afterwards.



Rip out walls/ceilings that are soaked or have absorbed water.

Remove materials at least 50 cm (20 inches) above high-water line. Throw out materials like drywall, ceiling tiles and insulation that cannot be easily cleaned/dried. Check for any other structural damage.



If you're doing the cleanup:

Always wear gloves and face mask (e.g. N-95 disposable respirator).

Use soap or detergent solution. Gently clean area to remove mould. Avoid creating dust.

Items like metals, glass and hard plastics can be cleaned with detergent.

Wood, concrete and similar material can be cleaned if structurally sound.

Valuable items should be cleaned/restored by a professional.

Disinfectants are only needed if cleaning mould caused by sewage waters.