

Identifying Mold Types and Symptoms in Utah Homes

✦ biocleanofutah.com/is-it-mold-tips-and-tricks-to-identify-mold-in-your-home

By Bio Clean of Utah

Your home in Ogden or Salt Lake City, Utah is your sanctuary. It's where you relax, grow, and create memories. But what if there's a silent invader lurking in hidden corners, menacing your health and property? That invader could be mold. But don't fret – this blog post will arm you with the knowledge on [how to identify mold](#) in your house and safeguard your home.

Spotting Mold: It's Not Always the Usual Suspects

Mold isn't always visible patches on your walls or ceilings. Sometimes, it hides beneath floorboards or behind drywall, leaving homeowners scratching their heads about mysterious health symptoms or persistent musty odors. Identifying mold types is the first step in tackling this issue.

The Physical Signs: Mold Symptoms in Your Home

Physical signs of mold in your house often include discolored patches or spots on walls, floors or ceilings. This might appear as black, green, or even pink stains. A musty odor is another tell-tale sign of mold. If any area of your house smells damp or earthy, it's time to investigate for mold.

The Hidden Threat: How to Find Hidden Mold in Your House

Hidden mold is particularly tricky. Behind wallpaper, under your carpet, or inside air conditioning ducts, mold finds its perfect hiding spots. Signs of hidden mold include peeling paint or wallpaper, warped boards or panels, and a persistent musty smell.

Health Alert: Mold's Impact on Your Wellbeing

Perhaps you've experienced unexplained allergies, a persistent cough, or bouts of dizziness and fatigue. Mold might be the culprit. High exposure to certain mold types can lead to serious health issues, making [mold identification and remediation](#) critical.

Mold Identification: A Practical Approach

So, how can you identify mold in your house? Savvy homeowners often start with a visual inspection, followed by the use of a mold detection kit available in most home supply stores. Remember, accurate mold identification should always be left to professionals.

Mold Identification Guide

Mold is a broad term that encompasses various types of fungi. Here are a few common types you might encounter in your home:

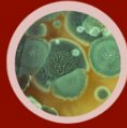
1. **Aspergillus (Aspergillus spp.):** A common indoor mold, Aspergillus comes in various colors, including green, white, or gray. It typically grows in thick layers on walls and other surfaces and can produce a musty odor. If inhaled, it can cause respiratory issues and allergic reactions.
2. **Cladosporium (Cladosporium spp.):** Cladosporium is a black or green mold often found on painted surfaces, textiles, and wood materials. It grows well in both warm and cold conditions. It may emit an earthy smell and can cause skin irritation, lung infections, or sinusitis.
3. **Penicillium (Penicillium spp.):** Recognizable by its blue or green color, Penicillium is often found on materials that have been damaged by water, such as wallpaper, carpeting, and insulation. Its musty odor is distinctive, and it's known to lead to allergies and asthma.
4. **Stachybotrys Chartarum (Stachybotrys spp.):** Also known as black mold, this is a toxigenic mold that can cause serious health complications. It's black or dark green and grows on high-cellulose, low-nitrogen surfaces (like drywall, gypsum board, paper, fiberboard, and lint). It often smells musty and damp.
5. **Alternaria (Alternaria spp.):** This mold is typically dark green or brown with a velvety texture. It's one of the most common molds and can be found in areas where dampness occurs, such as under leaky sinks or showers. Alternaria mold does not have a distinct smell but can lead to allergic reactions and asthma attacks.
6. **Chaetomium (Chaetomium spp.):** This mold initially appears white but quickly darkens to a gray or brown color. It has a cotton-like texture and is commonly found in water-damaged homes and buildings, specifically on drywall, wallpaper, baseboards, and window frames. Chaetomium emits a musty odor and can lead to various health issues.
7. **Fusarium (Fusarium spp.):** Fusarium is unique in its ability to grow at lower temperatures, and it typically appears pink, white or red. It often grows on water-damaged carpeting and fabrics. Exposure to fusarium can lead to skin infections or allergic reactions.
8. **Trichoderma (Trichoderma spp.):** This mold is usually white with green patches and has a woolly texture. It's often found on damp furniture, carpets, and other wet surfaces. Some species of Trichoderma produce strong musty odors and can cause respiratory and allergic reactions.
9. **Ulocladium (Ulocladium spp.):** Ulocladium mold is typically black in color and is commonly found in kitchens, bathrooms, and basements, particularly after flooding or water leaks. It's known for causing hay fever-like symptoms, skin infections, and more severe reactions in people with weak immune systems.

10. **Aureobasidium (Aureobasidium pullulans):** This mold can be pink, brown, or black. It's commonly found behind wallpaper or on painted or wooden surfaces. Visible as black spots, aureobasidium can cause skin, eye, and nail infections.
11. **Acremonium (Acremonium spp.):** This mold starts as a small moist mold that turns into a fine powdery substance. It can be pink, grey, orange, or white. Acremonium typically grows in household systems and areas such as condensation from humidifiers, cooling coils, drain pans, and window sealants.
12. **Mucor (Mucor spp.):** This fast-growing mold often found near HVAC systems and ducting due to moisture condensation. It appears as a white or greyish fluffy mold. Prolonged exposure can lead to mucormycosis, a fungal infection that can damage the respiratory system.
13. **Serpula lacrymans:** The dry rot fungus presents a yellow pancake-like mass that can turn into a brown rust color. This type of mold feeds on wooden structures and is commonly found in basements and crawlspaces.
14. **Scopulariopsis (Scopulariopsis spp.):** This mold appears in a wide range of colors and often grows on surfaces with high cellulose content like wood and drywall. It has a particular fondness for damp areas and is a common cause of nail infections.
15. **Epicoccum (Epicoccum nigrum):** Commonly known as the 'mold that follows the water', it's usually yellow or brown and found in house dust, plants, textiles, and painted surfaces.
16. **Rhizopus (Rhizopus spp.):** This mold is usually found on moist materials in buildings, and often grows in homes with high humidity or that have experienced water damage. It typically presents as black or brown woolly growth.
17. **Paecilomyces (Paecilomyces spp.):** This mold presents as colonies of a velvet texture that can range in color from white to yellow or green. It is commonly found in soil, but can inhabit water-damaged buildings and materials, contributing to building decay.
18. **Phoma (Phoma spp.):** This type of mold usually appears as a pink, purple or red stain. If there is enough moisture present, it can be found on painted surfaces, cement, and other materials.
19. **Absidia (Absidia spp.):** This mold is usually found on water-damaged cellulose materials such as wood and drywall. It presents as a white, fluffy growth.
20. **Arthrimum (Arthrimum spp.):** This mold is usually found on decaying plant materials and soil but also on water-damaged building materials. It is recognized by its dark-colored growth.

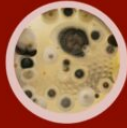
Remember, all types of mold should be considered potentially harmful and should be removed as soon as they are discovered. If you suspect that you have mold, it's best to call professionals like [Bio Clean of Utah for mold remediation](#).



Mold Identification Chart



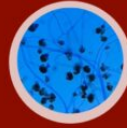
Aspergillus



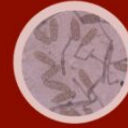
Cladosporium



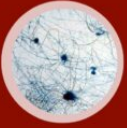
Penicillium



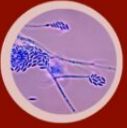
Stachybotrys
Chartarum



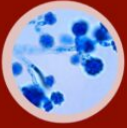
Alternaria



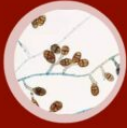
Chaetomium



Fusarium



Trichoderma



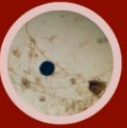
Ulocladium



Aureobasidium



Acremonium



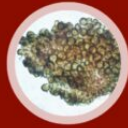
Mucor



Serpula
lacrymans



Scopulariopsis



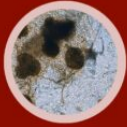
Epicoccum



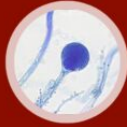
Rhizopus



Paecilomyces



Phoma



Absidia



Arthrinium

Contact Bio Clean of Utah

At Bio Clean of Utah, we're experts in mold remediation. Our team of professionals can accurately identify mold types, and follow strict protocols for its eradication, ensuring your home is safe and healthy.

Protect Your Home, Protect Your Health

Mold might be a formidable opponent, but you're not fighting alone. With a keen eye for signs of mold and a reliable team by your side, you're well-equipped to protect your home and health from this insidious invader.

Don't let mold threaten your sanctuary. Reach out to Bio Clean of Utah today at 385-438-3796 or visit our website biocleanofutah.com to request an estimate. After all, a mold-free home is a happy home. We're here to help you achieve just that!

