



Mold

In Your Home



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Extension
SERVICE

Photo courtesy of Paul Davis Systems

Health Effects of Mold



- **Watery or itchy eyes**
- **Sore throat**
- **Stuffed up nose**
- **Coughing**
- **Skin irritations**
- **May trigger asthma attacks**

Who's at Most Risk?



- **Infants and young children**
- **Pregnant women**
- **People with lower immunities**
- **The elderly**
- **Asthma sufferers**

Recognizing Mold



- Use your eyes: look for it
- Use your nose: smell for musty odors
- Experiencing health effects of mold

What is Required for Mold to Grow?



- Food source of organic material such as drywall, carpet, wallpaper
- Moisture
- Moderate temperature

Moisture Sources



- **Water leaks**
- **Flooded areas**
- **Humidity levels above 65%–70%**
- **Condensation**

Protect Yourself When Removing Mold



- Respirator or mask to filter mold spores
- Rubber gloves
- Eye protection

Remove Mold



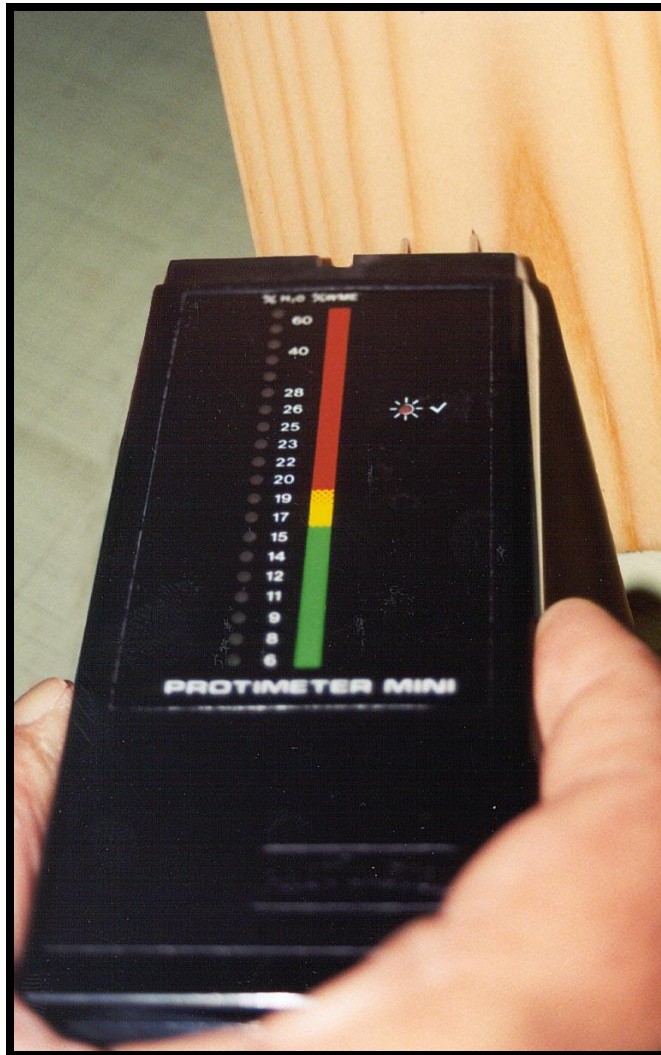
- Clean with detergent and brush
- Disinfect with chlorine bleach solution
- Rinse with water and dry quickly

Never Mix Chlorine Bleach and Ammonia



- The fumes are toxic

Dry Out Before Rebuilding



- Wood should be less than 15% moisture