

the original
got mold?TM
test kit

USER GUIDE

Real Science, Real SimpleTM

MycLab USA LLC • Princeton, NJ
1-800-838-1388 • gotmoldtestkit.com

COPYRIGHT ©2008 MYCOLAB USA LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

table of contents

Section	Page
1. The Original Got Mold? [™] Test Kit Introduction	3
2. The Original Got Mold? [™] Test Kit Parts and Components	5
3. Prepare the Environment	7
4. Baseline Outdoor Air Sample Test	9
5. Indoor Air Sample Test	13
6. Indoor Surface Test	15
7. Send Samples and Information	18
Warranty	19

SECTION 1

the original got mold?™ test kit introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of [The Original Got Mold?™ Test Kit](#). You are about to embark on a journey of empowerment, a journey that will take you from wondering whether your home, office or classroom has a mold problem to knowing what you have and what to do about it.

[The Original Got Mold?™ Test Kit](#) is not just for the home. It can be used in virtually any small indoor environment, such as an office or classroom, where you believe there may be a mold problem either on accessible surfaces or in the air.

The tools included in [The Original Got Mold?™ Test Kit](#), used to their full potential, **could save you more than \$1,000** compared to the cost of having a professional mold inspector survey your place and collect the same samples you will soon gather.

We urge you to read this User Guide and the enclosed Knowledge Supplement completely before you begin to take any samples. The Knowledge Supplement includes valuable information that will help you apply the steps in this Guide to get the best results from [The Original Got Mold?™ Test Kit](#). By reading these booklets, and by following their instructions faithfully, you will know:

①

How to inspect your personal environment for signs of moisture and possible (or obvious) mold growth;

②

How and where to take air and surface samples for analysis by MycoLab USA LLC, under the direction of Dr. George Carroll Ph.D., one of the world's leading mycologists (*mycologists are scientists who specialize in the study of molds and fungi*);

③

Whether you have elevated levels of mold in your indoor environment (once your laboratory analysis report is returned);

④

What to do in the event you do discover a problem, and;

⑤

How to prevent mold and moisture problems in the future.

did you know...

Mold and its possible health implications have been in the news and on the minds of smart Americans for many years now. Medical authorities have been slow to document what many consider the dangers of living in a mold-infested environment, though the subject has been written about for thousands of years, beginning with the Old Testament of the Bible.

You now hold the tools you will need to discover whether mold is a factor in your home or work environment, and you will soon have the knowledge to deal with it.

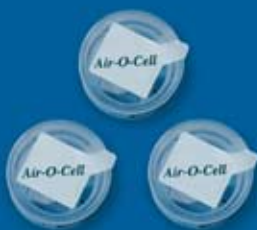
SECTION 2

the original got mold?™ test kit parts and components

Before you do anything, verify the contents of your **Original Got Mold?™ Test Kit** visible through the anti-contamination seal. If something is missing, please call Customer Service at 1-800-838-1388. **If anti-contamination seal is broken, the kit is not returnable.**



BIO-VAC™ AIR SAMPLING PUMP: This connects to the Air-O-Cell® cassette and draws a specified amount of air into the particle trap.



Three (3) AIR-O-CELL® CASSETTES: These are clear, plastic cylinders designed to trap the microscopic particles, such as mold spores, in indoor and outdoor air for laboratory comparison with each other.



Three (3) BIO-TAPE™ SURFACE SAMPLING SLIDES: These are used to take a sample of any surface discoloration or contamination that you suspect might be mold.

- One **ONLINE VOUCHER** for one free laboratory analysis
- One **COUPON** giving you a huge discount on additional analyses
- **ORDER FORM**
- **PREPAID RETURN MAILER** to send your samples to the laboratory
- **DVD VIDEO GUIDE**
- **USER GUIDE**
- **KNOWLEDGE SUPPLEMENT**

SECTION 3

prepare the environment

A few things to do before you start your test...

- Plan ahead.
- Close all windows, doors, and turn off any air purifiers, 24 to 48 hours before taking air samples.
- Open doors only to get in or out.
- Only take air samples on days when it is not raining and the air is still. Wind and rain will distort your outdoor sample.
- Do not take the outdoor sample just after mowing the lawn or other outdoor activities that might temporarily increase levels of naturally occurring mold.

Now you're ready to begin...

SECTION 4

baseline air sample test

In order to interpret indoor test samples, you will first need to conduct a “baseline” test outside. The lab will then compare this reading to the air samples taken inside your house. **The lab cannot produce a valid report without the baseline from the outdoor sample.**

step 1

Open battery compartment on Bio-Vac air pump. Insert four brand-new, brand-name AA alkaline batteries, with positive (+) button ends against flat contacts, and negative (-) flat end against coil springs. Put battery cover back on pump, turn on to test, then turn off.

If nothing happens, check battery placement.



step 2

Peel sticky tabs from both ends of Air-O-Cell® cassette marked “A1”.



steps continue over →

step 3

Stick tabs on side of Bio-Vac pump, away from your hand, to save for replacement back on cassette openings after air samples are taken.



step 4

Important: Make sure the Bio-Vac pump is OFF.

Place round tube of Air-O-Cell® cassette against the pump inlet. Gently press cassette onto the pump, leaving the side with the square tube exposed.

Do NOT turn on pump yet.



step 5

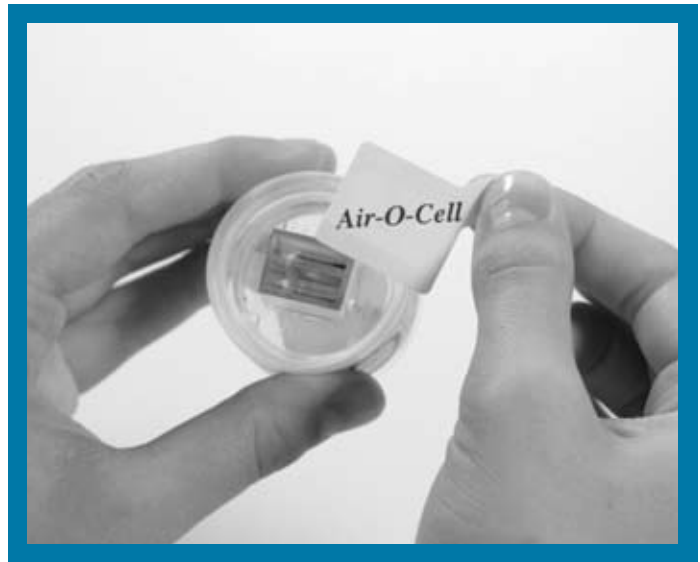
With a precise timer such as a stopwatch, stand in clear area several paces away from your closed house. Hold the Bio-Vac pump at shoulder level, pointing away from your body. Turn the Bio-Vac pump on and start the timer.

Turn pump off after exactly **3 minutes** have elapsed.



step 6

Put the sticky tabs back onto both ends of Air-O-Cell® cassette and then place the cassette in your plastic Sample Submission Bag.



step 7

Fill out the contact and billing information on the Order Form included in the kit, or save \$30 by going to:

<http://1freeanalysis.gotmoldtestkit.com>,

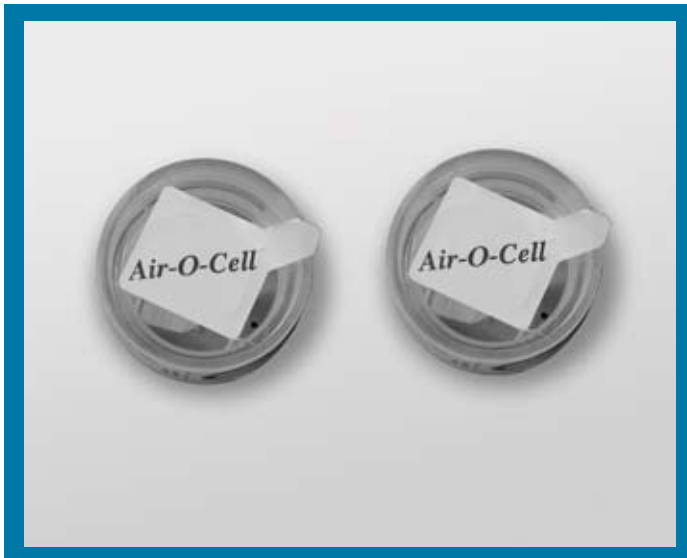
where you can redeem the enclosed Voucher for one free analysis.



SECTION 5

indoor air sample test

Test in places with a history of water damage, musty-smelling areas, or where someone is suffering from allergic reactions, asthma, respiratory ailments and/or environmental sensitivities. For help in selecting the best places to test, please review the [Knowledge Supplement](#).



Repeat Steps **1 through 7** for indoor samples. Use the Air-O-Cell® cassettes marked “A2” and “A3” in the two indoor areas of greatest concern.

Fill out the Location Description on the Order Form for each sample you collect. Don't forget you can save \$30 in the cost of one air sample analysis by submitting this information online at:

<http://1freeanalysis.gotmoldtestkit.com>

SECTION 6

indoor surface test

It looks like mold. Or — is it just a stain or discoloration? For a better understanding of mold, please review the **Knowledge Supplement**.

examples:

Exterior moisture intrusion causing mold growth on basedboard, wall, and carpeting.



Moisture intrusion under sliding glass door causing mold growth on carpeting.



Water damage on garage ceiling from a leaking water supply line.



Water damage and mold growth from a leaking shower assembly.

next steps

step 1

Remove the Bio-Tape™ slide marked “B1” from case.



step 2

Write location to be tested on the label. Peel off and discard clear plastic lining from slide. **Don't touch sticky part of slide to anything other than the surface you intend to test.**



step 3

Press the sticky part of slide **gently** onto the spot you wish to test.

NOTE: The adhesive is very strong, and may damage delicate surfaces if applied too firmly.



step 4

Peel slide off the test surface and return to plastic case. **Do not try to replace the clear plastic lining you peeled off.** Snap case closed.



step 5

Enter the sample location description for the BioTape™ slide marked “B1” on your Order Form or online at:

<http://1freeanalysis.gotmoldtestkit.com>

and place the slide in plastic Sample Submission Bag.



step 6

Take additional samples if needed.

Use Bio-Tape™ slides marked “B2” and “B3” to repeat **steps 1 through 5 of this section** for any additional surface samples.



SECTION 7

send samples and information

Insert all samples and Order Form (or printout from online submission) in the prepaid return envelope provided.

If you are paying by check or money order, please include your payment with the completed Order Form in the prepaid return envelope, or your samples will not be processed.

If you choose to pay online, and save \$30, please go to:

<http://1freeanalysis.gotmoldtestkit.com>

If you submit your sample information online, please print out two copies: one for your records, and one to accompany the samples in the prepaid return envelope.

WARRANTY

MycoLab USA LLC warrants that all components will be free of defects and will replace any defective or missing parts at no cost. If you have any defective or missing parts, please call 1-800-838-1388.

DISCLAIMER

Like any self-administered mold test kit, this does not replace or serve as a substitute for professional testing or mold-assessment performed by a qualified environmental consultant. This kit was designed to serve as a first step.

