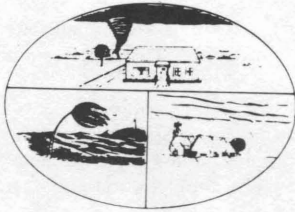


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TO REMOVE MILDEW

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Mildew is a whitish-to-purplish or grey growth produced by various kinds of molds. Molds that cause mildew are always present in the air. It grows on any surface that is warm, damp, poorly ventilated and lighted. It causes a musty odor and often leaves a stain. It causes fabrics and some surfaces to rot or decay.

Remove mildew spots as soon as they are discovered. Don't give mold growth a chance to weaken or rot the material. Brush off any surface growth outdoors to prevent scattering the mildew spores in the house.

Sun and air clothing and household fabrics thoroughly. Dry clean fabrics than cannot be washed or sponged with water. Wash things which are washable in detergent and water at once. Rinse well and dry as quickly as possible. If any stain remains, bleach with lemon juice, salt, and sunshine or use sodium perborate bleach or a diluted solution of chlorine bleach. Do not use chlorine bleaches on wool, silk or fabrics treated with special finishes.

If upholstered articles, mattresses and rugs are wet, dry as quickly as possible by using an electric heater or fan to speed drying. Take up wall to wall carpeting in order for it to dry thoroughly. Remove loose mold from the articles by brushing with a stiff brush. It is preferable to do this outside to prevent scattering mildew spores in the house.

Vacuum to draw out all the mold possible. Thoroughly clean the vacuum cleaner and its attachments immediately. Discard the disposable bag from the vacuum cleaner.

Sun and air the article to stop the mold growth. If the mildew or stain remains on carpeting, shampoo and again dry thoroughly.

Clean upholstery or mattress fabric with a damp cloth or sponge using 1 cup of rubbing alcohol in 1 cup water and dry thoroughly. Then use a low-pressure spray containing a fungicide to kill any remaining mildew spores.

If molds have grown into the inner part of an article, send it to a reliable disinfecting and fumigating service.

To remove mildew from leather goods, wipe with a cloth that has been wrung out with 1 cup denatured or rubbing alcohol, diluted with 1 cup water. Dry in a current of air. If mildew remains, wash with thick suds of saddle soap or a soap containing a germicide or fungicide. Wipe with a damp cloth and dry. Polish leather shoes and luggage with a good wax dressing.

Dry mildewed wood with heat and ventilation. Wood that is badly infected may need to be replaced with treated or naturally decay-resistant wood.

Scrub wooden surfaces with a mild alkali, such as washing soda or a disinfectant. Rinse well with clear water and allow the wood to dry thoroughly. Then apply a mildew-resistant paint.

If mold has grown into the wood under the paint, scrub first with an abrasive cleaner. Then wash with 4-6 tablespoons tri-sodium phosphate and 1 cup chlorine bleach to a gallon of water. Rinse with clean water, dry thoroughly, apply a wood preservative and apply mildew-resistant paint.

Dry papered walls slowly to prevent cracking. If paper can be washed, pat with a cloth wrung out of thick suds. Rinse with clean, damp cloth and pat dry with soft cloth.

Allow plaster walls to dry thoroughly. Brush off loose dirt. Wash with detergent solution or commercial cleaner. Start at the bottom and wash up overlapping the area washed to avoid streaking. Rinse and dry thoroughly. After cleaning walls and before replacing wallpaper, paint or spray with a quaternary disinfectant. The same solution may be applied to washable wallpaper.

It is easier to prevent mildew than to remove it once it begins. For more information, ask your county Extension agents for a copy of Home and Garden Bulletin Number 68, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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