



LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO GUIDANCE OF THE PREVENTION OF MOLD GROWTH



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CONDITIONS FOR AN INCREASED RISK FOR MOLD GROWTH:

1. Temperatures above 70 degrees Fahrenheit
2. High humidity above 55%.
3. Water damage
4. Dampness

TIPS FOR MOLD PREVENTION:

Repair plumbing leaks and leaks in the building structure as soon as possible. Look for condensation and wet spots. Fix source(s) of moisture incursion problem(s) as soon as possible.

Prevent moisture from condensing by increasing surface temperature or reducing the moisture level in the air (humidity).

To increase surface temperature, insulate or increase air circulation.

To reduce the moisture level in the air, repair leaks, increase ventilation (if outside air is cold and dry), or dehumidify (if outdoor air is warm and humid).

Keep HVAC drip pans clean, flowing properly, and unobstructed.

Perform regularly scheduled building/HVAC inspections and maintenance, including filter changes.

Maintain indoor relative humidity below 55%.

Vent moisture-generating appliances, such as dryers, to the outside where possible.

Vent kitchens (cooking areas) and bathrooms according to local code requirements.

Clean and dry wet or damp spots as soon as possible, but no more than 48 hours after discovery.

Provide adequate drainage around buildings, sloping the ground away from building foundations. Follow all local building codes.

Pinpoint areas where leaks have occurred, identify the causes, and take preventive action to ensure that they do not reoccur.

Moisture control is the key to mold control. When water/roof leaks or spills occur indoors, act promptly.