

MOULD FACT SHEET

What is mould?

Mould is a type of fungus that grows in damp areas. It may look black, grey, green or white and often smells musty.

Why it grows?

Mould needs moisture to grow. It is common in places with poor ventilation, little heating or water leaks.

Where is it common?

Bathrooms, kitchens, laundries, bedrooms, cupboards, walls, ceilings, carpets and furniture.

Why it matters?

Mould can affect your health. It may cause allergies, asthma symptoms, coughing, runny nose or skin and eye irritation.

When to get help?

If mould is found in your property, please call **UnitingSA Housing Maintenance** on **1800 023 023** to arrange an inspection and removal.

What can I do to prevent mould?

Everyday prevention tips

- Ventilate: Open windows and use exhaust fans.
- Heat: Use steady, dry heating in winter.
- Dry: Wipe away condensation and dry wet areas.

Room by room tips

- Bathroom – Use fan or open window when showering and dry wet surfaces.
- Kitchen – Use exhaust fan, cover pots and check for leaks.
- Laundry – Dry clothes outside and vent dryers.
- Bedrooms and cupboards – Open curtains, keep items dry and uncluttered.

Outdoor maintenance tip

- Keep gutters clear and make sure water drains away from the house.

How to remove small amounts of mould

Clean early. Use a bleach mix (1 part bleach to 3 parts water) or a mould cleaner.

IMPORTANT SAFETY WARNING: Wear appropriate PPE (e.g. gloves, face mask, goggles), ensure the room is well ventilated and do not dry-brush mould. Do not store chemicals in unlabelled bottles or where children can reach.

Common mould areas in a home

Mould grows where there is moisture, warmth and poor ventilation.

