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Home air quality testing near me

Test KitsEquipmentLimitationsResultsShippingReturningCancelling Single-use indoor air quality test kit with sampling pump, sample tube, instructions, testing form, and pre-paid shipping labels for easy return Testing in our state of the art AIHA accredited lab for accurate results Results reported and e-mailed within 7-10 business days of receipt of your samples Suggestions on how to improve your air quality Phone and email support Seamless 200 ml/min flow Battery operated on/off switch asbestos fibres ammonia (urine) bat guano bleach carbon dioxide carbon monoxide chinese drywall chlorine creosote & creosol fumigants illegal drugs – meth, marijuana, etc. insecticides isocyanates (TDI & MDI) methane ozone pepper spray pesticides sewer gas (hydrogen sulfide) Results are reported via e-mail within 7-10 business days from receipt of your samples. Kits for UK/European customer orders are typically sent out the following business day either by Royal Mail “First Class Signed For” delivery (UK) or “International Business Parcels Tracked and Signed For” delivery (other European countries). Pre-paid returns labels are included with kits for UK customers. Other European customers, however, must choose and purchase their own return service from local post. Return of kits and samples for UK customers uses the Royal Mail Special Delivery service which guarantees next day delivery. Return your entire kit, with sample(s), within 14 days to ensure validity of your sample(s). Pre-paid returns labels are included with kits for UK customers. Other European customers, however, must choose and purchase their own return service from local post. Return of kits and samples for UK customers uses the Royal Mail Special Delivery service which guarantees next day delivery. If unused and all Return Policy conditions are met, the customer will receive a refund for the purchase price minus all shipping costs (both the shipping of the kit to you and return shipment to Prism) and a £30 per sampling tube re-certification charge. Please note that orders cannot be cancelled once they have left our facility, see Return Policy. An order can be modified or cancelled prior to shipment from our facility by sending an email to support@homeaircheck.co.uk. You will receive a confirmation of shipment email when your package has shipped. We are sorry that we cannot offer a full refund or change an order once it has been shipped please refer to our Terms and Conditions. This test is designed to detect over 500 chemical compounds and active mould growth; learn more. The media is designed for the rapid collection of a wide range of particulate matter including: mould spores, pollen, insect parts, skin cells, fibres, mineral dust, the biogenic and inorganic particles, and opaque particles; learn more. This test is designed to effectively capture this known carcinogen for analysis; learn more. This test looks for specific chemical compounds known to be present in second-hand (environmental tobacco smoke or passive smoke) and third-hand smoke, commonly thought of as stale tobacco smoke or tobacco smoke residue; learn more. Home Air Check is brought to you in the UK and Europe through a partnership between Waverton Analytics Ltd and Enthalpy Analytical. Enthalpy Analytical is the leading consultative air testing laboratory in the United States. Our expertise in air scan technology has paved the way for the development of the first comprehensive home air test for total VOCs and total level of actively growing mould. The test results and reports provide you with specific rating levels of common contaminants and the specific actions you should take to remedy. Each Home Air Check test is analysed by Enthalpy Analytical, an industrial hygiene air testing laboratory accredited by the AIHA (American Industrial Hygiene Association). Aqua Legion UK Ltd is a specialist Legionella Risk Assessment and Water Monitoring Consultancy. We offer the delivery of independent legionella risk assessments, water management and monitoring services to both businesses and individuals throughout London and its surrounding counties. With set water monitoring and legionella risk assessment packages, we aim to make the process of water hygiene management and legionella health and safety compliance, both easy to achieve and clearly manageable for every customer. Moral foundations that underpin sensible pricing. With the moral underpinnings of professionalism, environmental impact, sustainability and corporate social responsibility as a foundation. We are driven by the aspiration to offer the most cost effective, value for money water hygiene and legionella control solutions throughout London and the surrounding counties. Consequently, we offer attractive discount codes for customers who pay online and for those businesses and properties linked to social health, well being, community and reform for example. Our set price packages start from £295 + VAT and are based on location, complexity and time required to complete your service. Legionella Risk Assessment Services – Our Speciality Over the past 10 years, Aqua Legion has operated as a leading provider of Legionella Risk Assessment, Water Hygiene Monitoring and Independent Legionella Consultancy Services. Our Consultants are fully trained and experienced providers of site specific Legionella Surveys, Legionella Testing, Legionella Training and Legionella Risk Assessment Programmes that have proved to be sustainable and effective over the longer term when compared to the competition. From standard Legionella assessment and inspection services, to complex drinking water sampling and chemical analysis. Aqua Legion UK Ltd provide services designed to demonstrate compliance to the Relevant Legislation, British Standards and the HSE’s Approved Code of Practice such as, ACOP L8, HSG274 parts 1, 2 and 3 and associated Health and Safety Guidance documents including, the Department of Health HTM’s 04-01 and 01-05. Whether you require a Legionella Risk Assessment in compliance with ACOP L8 or BS8580, Legionella testing in accordance with BS7592, a Legionella review or audit, or routine temperature monitoring, inspections or control programme. Our unique independent services mean we are always able to deliver an effective and mindful approach to legionella control. Comprehensive Legionella Assessment Specialist! Established from a Scientific and Professional Environmental Consultancy background, over the past 10 years, Aqua Legion UK Ltd has developed a solid foundation of knowledge that has flourished into industry leading expertise. Our Senior Consultant and Director is regarded as a Leading Industry Specialist in Legionella Risk Assessment, Management and Control. He has been a Member of the Management Committee for the Water Management Society Since 2008 and he has served to various degrees on sub committees, to help guide and refresh Membership initiatives, CPD initiatives and Conferences. Working with small domestic customers, to PLC organisations, Aqua Legion considers no job too big or small. Honest, Transparent and Independent Services Focused on delivering comprehensive Legionella Risk Assessments, Water Monitoring, Legionella Training and Water Testing Services throughout London, Greater London and the Southeast Region. Aqua Legion do not supply any Water Treatment Services, Chemicals, or Remedial works in house. However, we do offer Responsible Persons the direct supportive assistance they need to ensure compliance is consistently achieved. This means we are often requested to delivering Independently Managed Services, whereby we ensure tasks such as tank cleaning, are conducted by a competent supplier in line with British and other Regulatory Standards as well as contractual obligations. Our main job is to ensure the Competent Persons role is adequately covered throughout the process and that any remedial works or water treatment programmes are managed and conducted cost effectively. By offering our specialist opinion and or a Managed Services, we oversee and monitor either your own approved contractor or a subcontractors introduced to you. This ensures your works are conducted adequately and in accordance with relevant legislation, British Standards and HSE guidance. Our independence is an important part of our aspiration to delivering the most honest and transparent legionella management services available. Domestic and Process Water Sampling and Water Testing Services. Whether you require water sampling for investigative, reassurance, verification or legislative purposes. We provide a range of cost effective water testing, water sampling and water management solution for your needs. We conduct all types of water sampling, testing and analysis including domestic drinking water quality testing, leegionella sampling, routine cooling tower sampling and complex process water system analysis. We do not accept samples already collected. It is important to note that we are unable to receive water samples that have already been collected. All of our water sampling, analysis and testing services require a Consultant or Technician to visit your site to collect a fresh sample from the source to be tested. All samples are then submitted to the laboratory within 6 hours of collection and no more than 24 hours for legionella and chemical examination. This ensures the samples are most representative of the source from which they are collected and that the source or system is fully inspected to aid appropriate interpretation of results and professional integrity in the sampling and final report conclusions. Sustainability campaign – It’s a London Thing! One of few companies still genuinely based in London. We are determined to Save London Businesses Money and Help Save our Planet at the Same time! Do you have a property or multi-premise portfolio in London that is serviced by a Legionella risk assessment company or water hygiene contractor located outside of London or who pretends to be based in London? Switch to Aqua Legion UK who are genuinely based in London and you will reduce your organisations carbon foot print and subsequently the UK’s carbon foot print in a way that ultimately helps to sustain our planet. Furthermore, by developing a local supply chain, together we can help to promote and generate a localised environmental enrichment ethos that results in responsive, and sustainable business partnerships throughout London and the surrounding counties. Our Business is built from an Environmental and Social Sciences background. Therefore, promoting sustainability and helping to reduce the UK’s carbon foot print is of paramount importance. Not only are we committed to the preservation of the environment, we are also committed to supporting local businesses for localised sustainability, localised environmental enrichment, health and well being. This vision means we offer extremely competitive rates for all London based customers. If you require a professional legionella risk assessment, legionella control programme, temperature monitoring programme, legionella management service or water testing or water sampling service and you are based in London; contact us for our most competitive rates. However, it is also important to accept that whilst we may not always be the cheapest, we will always aim to be holistically the best! Competent Legionella Support where its needed Our independent legionella risk assessment and legionella Consultancy services are dependable, and geared towards adequately covering both the sites legionella risk, and our clients legislative liabilities including the Responsible Person(s) liabilities in the most cost effective and sustainable manor. Whilst we specialise in independent consultancy, we also offer management consultancy services that support the Responsible Person(s) directly by overseeing remedial actions, refurbishment or new build issues that may influence the legionella risk, legionella management or legionella monitoring programmes adversely. This is a freshly transparent and extremely effective approach that ensures Responsible Persons have access to competent support and advice as required in line with the HSE’s ACOP and therefor able to comply to the legislation most cost effectively. Our overseeing service also ensures Organisations and Responsible Persons receive value for money remedial works, water treatment programmes and associated with legionella control and management resolutions. If you are the Responsible Persons and feel you need discrete competent and supportive guidance from an Leading Industry Specialist you have come to the right place. For free industry sector specific legionella risk assessment and legionella management info – visit the download centre by clicking here. Does your Workplace need a Legionella Risk Assessment? Simple answer – YES! The detail. There is a clear legal requirement to conduct a legionella risk assessment in the work place or indeed any premise where water is used for as part of a commercial undertaking. Importantly, this includes privately rented residential property, social housing, and managed housing! However, for small scale residential properties such as those managed by Estate Agents. The legionella risk assessment should be simple and appropriately recorded. The risk assessment should not be confused with legionella sampling, legionella testing or analysis, legionella monitoring, legionella management or legionella control regimes. For most small domestic residential properties, the risks will normally be low and therefore no further action will be required other than to record and evidence that a risk assessment has been done. For cost effective solutions for risks assessment to a multi property portfolio of low risk properties please get in touch. Prices are dependent on volume. Legionella Risk Assessments for Landlords and Estate Agents Industry? As a result of misinterpretation and misunderstanding of the requirements, there has been much confusion in the Estate Agent and Residential Landlord Sectors over the past few years. This has resulted in the invention of terms such as “Landlords Legionella Test Certificates” that place unnecessary burdens on the Estate Agent and private landlords industries. Whilst it is emphasised that the risk of legionella MUST be assessed in any workplace or premises where water is used for a commercial undertaking including residential property. In the case of small rented residential properties, the risk will normally be low. Therefore, conducting the risk assessment will normally be straight forward and easy to do. For honest expert and professional guidance on the appropriate actions required for your multi property portfolio contact us now Aqua Legion UK – London’s leading Legionella Risk Assessment Specialist. Contact us: enquiries@aqualegion.com / Tel: 020 8555 3797 Formaldehyde is widely used by industry in the manufacture of building materials and household products. Formaldehyde can cause irritation of the mucous membranes including, the eyes, nose, and throat. Yes, dust can be a health hazard. It’s also a serious trigger for allergies and asthma. In addition to skin cells, dust can be made up of pollutants, animal dander, insect parts, pollen, soot, mineral dust, and more. At low levels, moulds and mould spores are generally harmless, but if their levels increase, they can affect people; especially those with allergies, asthma and respiratory conditions or suppressed immune systems. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) are emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short and long-term adverse health effects. Home Air Check UK / Waverton Analytics work with a number of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Professionals who carry out on-site testing – please contact us for details of our IAQ Professional partners operating in your area. Scroll Top Enthalpy Analytical is the leading consultative air testing laboratory devoted to the chemical identification and analysis of contaminants in the air. It is! Home Air Check is brought to you in the UK and Europe through a partnership between Plain Air Ltd and Enthalpy Analytical. Every single Home Air Check test is analyzed by the Enthalpy laboratory. We are pioneers and technology drivers, and industries all over the world rely on our expertise. Enthalpy forged air scan technology in 1995 with its introduction of TDT Air Scan®, which is the standard by which the identification and quantification of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) is measured. Our expertise in air scan technology has paved the way for the development of the first comprehensive indoor air test for total VOCs and total level of actively-growing mould. Our proprietary technology utilizes Fluorescence Spectroscopy and Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS) during the analysis to quickly identify and quantify hundreds of VOCs using only one sample. MoldScan™, another Prism breakthrough technology, detects actively-growing mould by measuring the level of microbial VOCs (MVOCs) produced by active mould growth. We are the only laboratory that has been successful in developing this type of technology which measures mould metabolites down to the parts-per-trillion (ppt) level. Email: bookings@airtestingltd.co.uk Telephone: 01223 479 357 After hours: 07525002433 Air Testing Ltd The Grange 10 Weavers Field Girton Cambridge CB3 0XB. Elliott Environmental Services Limited is a highly respected air conditioning, ventilation and heating company headquartered in Yeovil, Somerset. The business was established in 2003 and has built up an excellent reputation over many years for delivering high quality, cost effective and reliable solutions to its customers. We work throughout the south, the south west, London and the southern home counties including Bath, Bournemouth, Bridgwater, Bristol, Exeter, Salisbury, Southampton, Yeovil and Central London. Read more How It WorksAbout UsReportsYour HealthVOCsMouldFormaldehydeCostAfter you place an order for a Home Air Check test kit, we send you a small sampling device to collect an air sample in your home. The sampling time takes about 2 hours. After the sample is collected, return the complete kit to our laboratory, where we will analyze the air sample using sophisticated state-of-the-art analytical instrumentation for hundreds of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) that can be found in home air. In addition, we will look for 21 specific mold compounds that can be generated when mold is actively growing in a home. A detailed report is then generated. In this report will be a Total VOC concentration level – a total of all the VOCs found in your home. The US Green Building Council recommends a TVOC level of less than 500 ng/L to be considered a healthy environment. (The median US home is about 1,200 ng/L.) A total concentration of Mold VOCs is also listed. Generally, this number should be less than 8 ng/L or you have active mold growth you need to find. The report also includes a Contamination Index, which gives you a prediction of which sources or materials in your home may be responsible for these contaminating chemicals, such as gasoline, paint, adhesives, odorants, personal care products, etc. This report is emailed to you within 5 business days of receipt of your air sample. We can provide phone or chat line support to answer any questions you have and to help you improve your air quality. Home Air Check can detect many chemical compounds in the air; however, the test results don’t name the specific chemicals found or their concentrations. The Home Air Check test is designed to be a lower-cost screening test that uses an air sample to scan for many chemical compounds, which are assigned to source categories so that the non-chemist, i.e., average consumer, can use this information to find possible problem areas in your home. Those categories are classified as lifestyle or building-related, and include many common sources like personal care, odorants/fragrances, paints/varnishes, and other adhesives and solvents. You can view a sample report here, to see exactly what the report will look like and what type of information is reported. Each category is given a value of Normal, Moderate, Elevated, or Severe, and guidelines are given as to what types of products could be included in that category so that the homeowner can locate them and contain them or remove them from the home completely. From this report, you should be able to ascertain whether or not a specific chemical that you may be concerned about could be in your home air, and what types of products may be contributing to the air pollution. Our laboratory can perform a much more comprehensive analysis that will give detailed information about specific chemicals, but those tests are performed by professionals because of their much higher cost and the need for interpretation by a chemist. Home Air Check tests for the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in your home air. VOCs are also referred to as airborne, or gaseous, chemicals. Home Air Check uses these VOCs to determine: The Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC) level which is used to describe the general air quality in your home. The Total Mold Volatile Organic Compounds (MVOCs) which indicates actively growing mold in your home. When mold is in its active growth phase it releases chemicals into the air, called Mold Volatile Organic Compounds (MVOCs). The Contamination Index™ which indicates the most likely sources of the chemical contamination in your home so you can take action to improve your home air quality. While Home Air Check provides an excellent overview of your home air, there are possible home contaminants that Home Air Check cannot test for. Below is a list of some of these other contaminants that may require different testing methods. Radon Asbestos Lead Sewer Gas Chinese Dry Wall Live rodents or dead animals Animal urine Manufacture of illegal drugs Spray foam insulation CARB-2 compliance for laminate flooring Nicotine or tobacco smoke (separately offered by Home Air Check) Methane Carbon Monoxide (CO) Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Additional details regarding these contaminants can be found in separate Common Questions below. No, currently Home Air Check cannot monitor for dust, pollen, pet dander, and mold spores because these contaminants are airborne particles, not airborne gases. Home Air Check detects gaseous air contaminants that can’t be seen with the naked eye. However, we do partner closely with other laboratories that perform these types of analyses and can recommend one if you are interested. No, Home Air Check does not currently monitor for Radon. No. Asbestos is a fiber and Home Air Check does not monitor for fibrous materials. Home Air Check can detect some of the associated chemical compounds, but cannot specifically identify the presence of live or dead animals. Currently, the test cannot detect for animal infestations, e.g., rodent droppings. Home Air Check can detect some of the solvents used in illegal drug production but many of these are common solvents that could be coming from other sources. However, it cannot detect the drug itself because most drugs are not volatile. The chemicals that off-gas into the air are mostly volatile and the test could pick those up if they were entering an adjoining space. Home Air Check does not provide a definitive positive or negative determination to prove the presence of illegal drugs. Please contact your local authorities if you suspect illegal activity. No. The emissions test as described in the 60 Minutes report is performed under specific conditions of temperature, humidity, and airflow and only includes the bulk material. So once you get the material in a “real” environment you are likely to get different emissions than the chamber test reported. Home Air Check does not specifically detect for nicotine or tobacco. However, Prism has developed another test called Tobacco Smoke Check that does detect for the presence of certain chemical markers known to be present in tobacco smoke. The Tobacco Smoke Check test can be ordered from this site, either as a stand-alone test, or in conjunction with a Home Air Check test. Prism Analytical Technologies, Inc. is the developer of Home Air Check. Prism is an air testing laboratory accredited by the AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs (AIHA-LAP), LLC in the Industrial Hygiene accreditation program for GC/MS Field of Testing as documented by the Scope of Accreditation Certificate and associated Scope. Prism has been developing novel air monitoring and testing techniques and providing air consultative services to Fortune 100 and 500 companies since 1992. Waverton Analytics has expertise in the field of environmental analytics and has teamed up with Prism Analytical to support the Home Air Check tests in the UK and Europe. Home Air Check is the advanced analysis of an air sample collected by you in your home. The test provides a report describing several aspects of your home air quality: Total concentration of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) – general indoor air quality indicator Total concentration of Mold Volatile Organic Compounds (MVOCs) – indicator of active mold growth Contamination Index™ categories – several common product or activity areas that often impact your home air quality with characterization of your home in relation to thousands of other homes. Prism Analytical Technologies is the developer of Home Air Check. Prism is an air testing laboratory accredited by the AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs (AIHA-LAP), LLC in the Industrial Hygiene accreditation program for GC/MS Field of Testing as documented by the Scope of Accreditation Certificate and associated Scope. Prism has been developing novel air monitoring and testing techniques and providing air consultative services to Fortune 100 and 500 companies since 1992. With a single test, Home Air Check provides a comprehensive picture of chemical levels that the occupants are breathing when in the home. It also indicates a level of actively growing mold present in the home. Since these chemicals are tested simultaneously, this sophisticated analysis becomes less expensive. Also, the samples are collected without the use of toxic chemicals, so there are no health risks using Home Air Check. No other home air test can match the level of completeness, sophistication, prediction, and value of Home Air Check. Home Air Check and Prism Analytical Technologies are significantly different from our competition in a number of ways: Prism is the only laboratory to offer a prediction of the likely sources of chemicals in the home, so that an action plan can be created. Prism is the only laboratory with enough sensitivity to pick up mold VOCs in the home. Prism is the only laboratory that will perform a full GC-MS analysis (detailed chemical analysis) for under $300. Prism is the only laboratory that you can easily get professional support after your analysis. That is we will talk to you about your report for no added fee and we are easy to reach. Prism has been a leader in the US of using TDT or thermal desorption tubes for indoor air analysis. These tubes allow for easy low cost collection and analysis of your indoor air sample. Prism has been an innovator in developing tests that try to look at all the chemicals in your air, not a select set defined by regulatory groups. There is no other product like Home Air Check on the market. With this product you receive the following: The total level of VOCs in your home. The total level of mold VOCs in your home. The predicted sources of the VOCs in your home so you can improve your air quality. Phone, email or chat with a professional about your report if you have any questions or concerns You can get a $400 professional product for less than $150. Home Air Check was designed so anyone can easily use it in their own home. After you receive your results we provide telephone or chat line assistance to answer any questions you might have and to help you improve your air quality. Professionals would use a test similar to Home Air Check to find the chemical sources in your home that might be causing you to have health issues as well as other tests to look for other things such as radon, carbon monoxide, etc.. Professionals can provide a visual inspection of the home that we cannot provide, and they might be able to identify the source without testing. However, the cost of a having a Professional come to your home could be expensive. If you wish to go in that direction, we could recommend someone in our network. Home Air Check has been designed to identify the possible chemical sources that are present in your home air so that a solution can be developed to reduce or remove them and improve your air quality. Chemical compound, or VOC, concentrations can vary throughout the home and change with time, so the absolute concentration is less important than which VOCs are present. The presence of each compound tells something about the home and how to potentially improve the air quality of the home. Our reports contain a comprehensive analysis of your air quality in an easy to read format. Reports As with any prediction, however, there is some uncertainty and if a significant issue is predicted, more detailed follow-up testing by an air quality professional is usually recommended. Once the sample is received by Prism, it will be analyzed within 5 business days and an easy-to-read report that details the levels of VOCs and MVOCs (actively growing mold) plus a list of the predicted sources of the VOCs will be emailed to you. The Home Air Check test is analyzed by Prism Analytical Technologies (Laboratory ID 166272), an air testing laboratory accredited by the AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs (AIHA-LAP), LLC in the Industrial Hygiene accreditation program for GC/MS Field of Testing as documented by the Scope of Accreditation Certificate and associated Scope. In order to become accredited, a laboratory must undergo a rigorous application and review process every two years. This accreditation process takes months to complete and each laboratory must formally demonstrate its competence to conduct testing, thereby increasing the credibility of the testing results. This conformity assessment encompasses all operations of the lab, including management, technical competence of the lab personnel, the validity of the testing methodology, and the validity of the results. Technical competence of a lab depends upon its quality control systems, plus qualifications, training and experience of the lab staff, demonstration of proficiency in testing, appropriate handling of samples, suitable testing environment, properly calibrated and maintained equipment, traceability to national standards and accurate reporting. Therefore, you can rely on the accuracy and validity of the Home Air Check test and its results because of Prism’s status as an AIHA accredited laboratory. Your analysis report will describe the levels of VOCs and actively growing mold in the home, as well as provide a Contamination Index™ that lists the predicted sources of air contaminants and suggestions for removal from the home. If extremely high levels of air contaminants are found, Prism will offer you assistance in finding an Indoor Air Quality Professional that can address your concerns and help you determine the next steps in improving your indoor air quality. Gasoline and petroleum VOCs are surprisingly very common in homes. They come from a number of possible sources that are stored in attached garages, including: gasoline cans; lawn equipment (mowers, trimmers, leaf blowers); recreational vehicles (ATVs, mini-bikes, etc.); and gasoline-powered generators. In addition, petroleum products like gasoline, kerosene, and oil can spill onto the garage or basement floor and become trapped in the cracks or subflooring beneath. Also, even the smallest amount of gasoline on clothing, rags, or the hands can affect the levels of VOCs the Home Air Check test detects. It is very important that you remove any potential sources of petroleum products from the garage or basement, and store them in a detached shed or other structure, away from the home. These products are toxic and contain carcinogens (cancer-causing agents) such as benzene and toluene. Many fragrances, like citrus or pine, would show up in this category. While many chemical compounds can contribute to odorants and fragrances, a chemical class called terpenes is dominant in this case. Terpenes occur naturally in a variety of plants, although most are synthetically manufactured for fragrance and flavor purposes. Many essential oils contain relatively large amounts of this type of chemical compound. There are some additional sources for these compounds besides fragrance and flavor products, such as turpentine, pharmaceutical products, insect repellants, cosmetics, cleaners, and air fresheners. Many fragrances, like citrus or pine, would show up in this category. While many chemical compounds can contribute to odorants and fragrances, a chemical class called terpenes is dominant in this case. Terpenes occur naturally in a variety of plants, although most are synthetically manufactured for fragrance and flavor purposes. Many essential oils contain relatively large amounts of this type of chemical compound. There are some additional sources for these compounds besides fragrance and flavor products, such as turpentine, pharmaceutical products, insect repellents, cosmetics, cleaners, and air fresheners. No, we’re sorry, but the specific chemical data are not available. Home Air Check is a low-cost air survey test that is designed to provide you with easy-to-understand general information regarding the primary sources of VOCs in your home. A complete chemical listing is not useful without an interpretation by a degreed chemist, which is very costly, and therefore, is not available with Home Air Check. If you feel that you need more extensive testing that will provide the detailed chemical information, we recommend that you contact an industrial hygienist who specializes in indoor air quality issues. If you are referring to biological organisms living in carpet, like dust mites, the Home Air Check test does not test for those, with the exception of mold. However, it is true that carpet is often a sink for many things that could cause problems. We typically recommend hard surface floors with area rugs that can be removed and cleaned if at all possible. Rented apartment units can be especially difficult to deal with regarding air quality because you usually do not have much control over the structure of the building, and VOC sources from your neighbors can easily enter your air. Also, previous tenants sometimes leave behind traces of themselves that are not immediately apparent, and the leasing company or agent may have performed renovations or other activities that can also leave traces of contamination. If you know your neighbors well enough, ask them if they have or use any of the products listed in those categories that came back as Elevated or Severe. We have encountered several instances where a neighbor’s unit had a significant effect on air quality and they were not even aware there was a problem. After you have looked for any possible sources and removed or contained them (e.g., cleaning products can be stored in a container with a tight fitting lid when not in use, apply personal care products with the bathroom exhaust fan running, etc.), the next step is to reduce the amount of the remaining sources by increasing the amount of ventilation, either fresh or filtered re-circulated air. Most homes do not have adequate air changes per hour so this aspect should be addressed regardless of the air quality levels. In an apartment, this is more difficult, however, because you have only limited ability to control the air exchange rate. Another option for difficult air quality issues is to use an air purifier. This purifier must include a VOC filter or removal system as well as a particulate filter. Often, this type of purifier includes something to remove biological contaminants, too. When run continuously, one or more air purifier units can reduce the VOCs by as much as half. For a recommendation on air purifiers that remove VOCs Visit Yes, absolutely. It is a wise decision to have a complete pre-inspection and indoor air quality assessment performed prior to putting your home on the market to make sure no hidden issues will be revealed after a potential buyer has made an offer to buy your home. In this case, you would need to have an IAQ Home Survey professional test (a more detailed analysis of the home air) conducted by a home inspector who participates in our professional network. IAQ Home Survey provides you the ability to conduct a more detailed analysis of the compounds found in your home’s air. Plus, the home inspector takes care of performing the test and handling all the paperwork and shipping. Having a certified report from a home inspector that the air quality in your home meets recommended or acceptable levels gives credibility to the overall value of your home. Please note that IAQ Home Survey testing will cost more than our online price since it is performed by a service professional and it is a more detailed analysis. You will need to contact the local provider for all pricing. Find a professional near you (click here). For confidentiality reasons, we will not share your Home Air Check report with anyone other than whom you approve. This also means that we require written (on the Testing Form or in an email) approval to share your report with someone of your choosing (attorney, lanlord, spouse, etc.). Many times we just can’t understand why we feel sick and tired on a daily basis, and why we develop symptoms that worsen over time. For instance, those who are living in homes contaminated by mold may not be able to smell any odor and may be unaware that a problem exists. The sudden onset of food allergies and digestive problems can go undiagnosed, or even misdiagnosed. And long after you’ve finished using a product containing VOCs, you could be feeling its effects. If you or a loved one has unexplained allergic reactions or illnesses occurring on a continual basis, the source of the problem could be indoor air pollutants. What you don’t know about the air in your home could hurt you and your family. Many of the things we are exposed to every day in our homes, including products and materials we use on a routine basis, are considered harmful chemicals. In addition, many areas of the country have problems with humidity, and mold is often found actively growing in homes, silently causing more health concerns. There are serious health risks with repeated and prolonged exposure to VOCs and mold. These risks are elevated for individuals already suffering from chronic respiratory illnesses such as asthma, allergies, chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Some VOCs are considered Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) and have been linked to cancer. Our homes are supposed to be our safe-havens – not places where we are put at risk. With such a comprehensive, inexpensive test available, why wouldn’t you want to give yourself peace of mind that you’re doing everything you can to protect the well-being of the ones you love most? Breathing bad air can cause many health effects, from mildly irritating to extremely serious. Symptoms such as frequent headaches, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, confusion, coughing, wheezing, itchy eyes, nose and throat irritation can be indicators that the quality of air in the home is poor – especially if these symptoms subside once you leave the house. Other more serious health problems that can arise with poor indoor air quality are asthma exacerbation, digestive problems, and damage to the liver, kidneys and central nervous system. Some air contaminants are so harmful that they can even cause cancer. VOCs, or Volatile Organic Compounds, are invisible gases that are emitted from solids and liquids found in the home, such as building materials, cooking sources, gasoline and fuel, air fresheners, paints/varnishes, dry-cleaning, laser printers, carpeting, adhesives, cleaning solutions, and many other sources. These chemicals can build up in houses, especially in the winter and summer months when homes are generally closed up. Repeated exposure to VOCs can cause blurred vision, headaches, nausea, dizziness, coughing, lethargy, burning eyes, respiratory irritation, skin rashes, reduced lung function, respiratory illness, concentration difficulties, depression, and, in extreme cases, loss of consciousness and suffocation. Higher exposure can lead to liver damage, kidney and central nervous system irregularities. Some VOCs can cause cancer. MVOCs, or Mold Volatile Organic Compounds, are gases (chemicals) produced by actively growing mold. Just as humans expire gases, so do molds. These chemicals can be monitored to determine the level of actively growing mold in the house. A Home Air Check™ measurement is an excellent way to determine the level of mold growing in a house — even behind walls. This is possible because Home Air Check is a chemical analysis of the air, and chemicals move more freely through a house than mold spores (particulates) which can be trapped by walls and thereby go undetected. MVOCs only determine actively growing mold, not the species of mold. When mold levels are elevated and there is chronic exposure in the home, some individuals can experience negative health effects, or worsening of existing illnesses, that could run the gamut from mild to serious. These health effects could include allergies, skin irritations, asthma, respiratory infection, and toxic poisoning. In addition, individuals with suppressed immune systems may be particularly vulnerable to illnesses caused by mold contamination. The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and the European Union (EU) suggest that levels greater than 500 ng/L of VOCs could pose a health hazard in homes. High levels of VOCs can lead to respiratory irritation, mental confusion, headaches, lethargy, or worse, and can exacerbate existing medical conditions such as asthma. The levels of these compounds tend to be higher in homes built after 1970 because fresh air infiltration has been reduced to conserve heat with improved insulation, tighter door and window seals, and better construction technology in general. MVOCs detected above 30 ng/L indicate significant actively growing mold. Even this slightly elevated level could produce health concerns for some people. The best way to maintain a low level, and thus, safe level of volatile chemicals in the house is to remove sources of VOCs and MVOCs from the house, if they can be identified. VOCs and MVOCs can be reduced, but not eliminated, by circulating fresh air from an open window or ceiling/attic exhaust fans. If a house is opened up through windows and exhaust fans, the VOCs should be at their lowest level, assuming you are not living in heavy industrial chemical areas with chemical plants or fuel refining plants. If you live in a heavily industrialized area, you should probably have your air quality checked since it could be significantly above recommended standards. The level of MVOCs will be the lowest in a dry home. If windows are open and the house becomes damp, then higher levels of microbial activity will be present and higher levels of MVOCs can be produced. In this case, turning on dehumidifiers and/or air conditioners and keeping the house closed will produce lower MVOCs. Yes, these gases will stay in the house until they are removed. Because Home Air Check uses state-of-the-art technology, an entire chemical fingerprint of the home is produced which allows us to predict the primary sources of air contamination. With the analysis reports, we provide a Contamination Index™ Report that lists these potential contamination sources, along with recommendations on how to remove or reduce them. If, however, the VOC or MVOC levels exceed acceptable standards, Prism can assist with the necessary next steps to improve the home’s air quality with a consultation, further testing, or referral to a knowledgeable industrial hygienist or other professional specializing in indoor air quality issues. If the VOC source cannot be removed from the home, replacing the home air with fresh air on a regular basis will keep the VOCs at their lowest levels and will reduce your exposure. Placing smaller sources, such as cleaning products, in tight containers when not in use can also help reduce VOCs in your air. If your report lists the MVOC levels as being elevated, there is a water intrusion somewhere. It could be underneath the carpeting, if it has gotten wet in the past and has never dried out completely. In order for mold to grow, there must be a water source. This can include chronic condensation as well as an active leak or water intrusion. The first step is to identify any water source and then remove it or stop the water from collecting. You may want to check underneath the carpeting to see if there is any source of water that may be producing the mold VOCs. The amount of formaldehyde emitted from flooring, or any material, depends a lot on the indoor environment. So once it’s installed the best thing to do is measure Formaldehyde in your home air since that’s what you are actually exposed to. An elevated Formaldehyde concentration does not necessarily mean there is a problem with your flooring, Formaldehyde has many possible sources that could be contributing and tighter, more energy efficient homes may experience higher concentrations due to a lack of air exchange. No, we are not a mould remediation company. Our Home Air Check test can detect the presence of actively growing mould. If it is determined that your home has a mould issue, you will need to consult a mould specialist to have it removed. Mould spores are everywhere outdoors and are being swept by winds into locations where there may not be any mould growth. These spores can be brought into the home through the air and by foot traffic. If an outdoor mould spore test is not performed, the home may be incorrectly assessed as having a mould problem since indoor mould spores exceed outdoor mould spores when mould is present indoors. No, our test does not speciate moulds. The Home Air Check test looks for the chemicals that are released into the air from actively growing mould, called Mould Volatile Organic Compounds or MVOCs, and reports on the total concentration of MVOCs found in the home. If you need a test that specifically identifies mold species and their individual concentrations, we partner with a few excellent biological laboratories that do this type of analysis, and would be happy to recommend one to you. If the crawl space is highly vented, the chemicals generated by the mould growth would be quickly swept out through the vents before they could get into the home and be detected using Home Air Check. Also, if a sealed, plastic membrane has been installed between where the mould growth is and the interior of the home, the mould would not be detected. However, if the crawl space is not vented nor has minimal venting, and there is no sealed, plastic membrane, the mould VOCs can usually be detected inside the home. Potentially, yes. Potted plants have mould spores and active mould growth in the soil. Potting soils generally have plenty of nutrients and water that can produce mould growth which in turn can produce mould spores. Mould spores are also produced by some food products such as blue cheese. One of the main benefits of Home Air Check™ is that it can still see chemicals being emitted from growing mould even if the mold is behind a wall. Most mould tests require the mould to be almost obvious before they are able to detect it. Home Air Check can detect mould even when it is not visible. Yes, mould spores travel through the air and by foot traffic and can make it into the home via the outdoor air and grounds. Although these spores are in the home and can end up on many surfaces, they do not grow and damage surfaces unless they have nutrients and a moisture source. Basically, they are tiny seeds, microscopic and invisible to the naked eye, that spawn from moulds and float through outdoor and indoor air. When they land in an appropriate environment, they will grow into new mould. Where there is a moisture source such as a plumbing leak, condensation, or water intrusion, there most likely is mould. If you can’t see the mould, it doesn’t mean there isn’t mould growing behind walls or underneath flooring. When mould is in an active growth phase, it releases chemicals into the air, called Mould Volatile Organic Compounds (MVOCs). With Home Air Check, these MVOCs can be easily detected, thus indicating that mold, while it cannot be seen yet, is growing somewhere in the home. The benefit of performing the Home Air Check test to detect hidden mould is that no mold is disturbed and thus spread during the test. The drilling of holes in drywall or the removal of wall coverings and flooring to try and test for mould spores is not necessary, and thus eliminates the possibility of making the mould infestation worse and the expense of damaging walls and flooring. If Home Air Check detects hidden mold in your home, it will be imperative to call a mold remediation specialist to locate the source, repair it, and safely remove the mould. Formaldehyde is listed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) and is a known carcinogen (cancer-causing agent). Since Formaldehyde is frequently found in homes, particularly in homes that are newly constructed or have been recently remodeled, we recommend that you include a Formaldehyde test with your Home Air Check kit order. Special pricing is offered when a Home Air Check test is combined with a Formaldehyde test. We also offer a single test for Formaldehyde only. Formaldehyde is a colorless, strong-smelling gas. It is produced naturally by humans, plants (especially woods), and animals. Many manmade materials also contain formaldehyde, including engineered wood products (e.g., particle board, plywood, OSB, MDF, flooring, etc.), some preservatives, personal care and cleaning products, cosmetics, permanent press fabrics, glues, air fresheners, paints and coatings. Formaldehyde is also a byproduct of combustion, which includes some vehicle exhaust, fuel-burning appliances (gas stoves, kerosene space heaters, etc.), fireplaces, wildfires, structural fires, tobacco smoke, and trash fires. Since formaldehyde has several natural sources (atmospheric chemical processes; combustion; plants, primarily wood, and animals; decomposition of plant and animal material), outdoor levels typically range from a few ppb in rural areas up to ~20 ppb in more urban areas. Indoor air usually has more formaldehyde than outdoor air, typically ranging from ~20 ppb to several hundred ppb depending on the situation. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends Formaldehyde in indoor air be kept below 100 ng/L, or 80 ppb. Formaldehyde levels are usually higher in summer than winter because of the higher temperature and humidity in the summer months. Formaldehyde is found in many products and processes, including some natural sources. Carpets typically do not contain significant amounts of formaldehyde anymore. However, carpets can trap formaldehyde within its fibers from other sources. And, there are other types of flooring that do contain formaldehyde. As with any chemical compound, locating and removing or containing sources is the first step to lowering the formaldehyde concentration. If sources cannot be located or it is not possible to remove the source, then increasing the amount of ventilation will dilute the amount of formaldehyde in the air and lower the concentration. Formaldehyde cannot be reliably measured in blood, urine, or body tissues following exposure. Formaldehyde is produced in the body and would be present as a normal constituent in body tissues. Formaldehyde is a known human carcinogen (cancer-causing agent), it can also cause nasal and eye irritation, increased risk of asthma and allergies, and neurological effects. At concentrations over 500 ppb it can cause eczema and changes in lung function. Animal studies have shown decreased body weight, gastrointestinal ulcers, and liver and kidney damage at high doses. There are a number of ways to reduce the level of formaldehyde in your home, including: Increase the amount of fresh air in the home by opening windows or using an HVAC system that brings in outdoor air. Most HVAC systems just recirculate the home air and do not replace it with outdoor air. Air conditioning and dehumidifiers have been shown to help by removing moisture from the air, which increases formaldehyde levels. Some air cleaners have VOC reduction systems that can remove some of the formaldehyde. However, do not expect them to remove all or even a large portion of the formaldehyde unless they have been specifically tested and demonstrated to do so. Cabinetry and prefabricated flooring are two large sources of formaldehyde. If these sources are removed, they can lower the formaldehyde level; however, they should be replaced with materials that are not constructed with formaldehyde-based glues or resins. Home Air Check was designed to be a do-it-yourself air quality assessment. When you purchase a Home Air Check test, we ship a small sampling device directly to your home for you to collect the air sample. After collecting the air sample, you then return the sampling device and sample to our lab where our chemists will perform an analysis of your air using our sophisticated instruments (Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry or Fluorescence Spectroscopy) . After the analysis is completed, we will email you the results of your air test. Phone and online chat support is available, if needed, to help you understand your results. The price covers all of these steps, including the shipment of the air sample back to our lab. The price you pay covers all costs associated with the test. We provide you with the sampling kit to use to collect the air sample, the pre-paid postage to return the sampling equipment to us, the analysis of the results, and any telephone or chat line support after the results are emailed you, to help resolve any issues that may have been found. The only additional cost is the shipping fee to send the sampling kit to you. We provide free return shipping at a Ground speed. Customers can purchase separately (outside of www.homeaircheck.com) an expedited return shipping. **Non-Return of sampling equipment may result in additional charges. Please see our return policy for additional information.