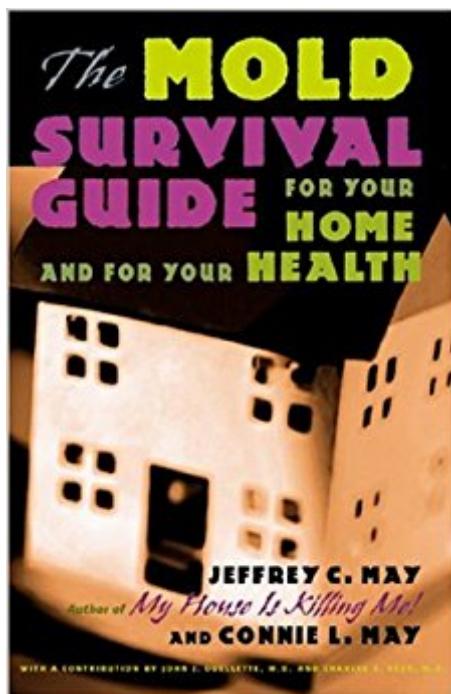


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# The Mold Survival Guide: For Your Home And For Your Health



## Synopsis

The image was shocking: a couple wearing protective suits and masks in their own home! The accompanying USA Weekend story documented the mold-related headaches, fatigue, and respiratory problems that forced Melinda Ballard and Ron Allison to abandon their dream house, leaving all their possessions behind. Another family was so terrified that they had their mold-filled house torn down. Mold growth threatens property managers and builders, as well as home owners and renters. Legal settlements in some mold cases have reached the millions, and home insurance rates are skyrocketing. Some people argue that mold concerns are exaggerated; others are convinced that mold growth is destroying their health. In *The Mold Survival Guide*, a prominent indoor air quality professional teams up with a writing specialist to describe mold, to explain where and why it flourishes in homes, and to offer advice on how to eradicate mold while minimizing health risks. The book includes a chapter by two physicians who explain how exposure to mold can affect health. With clear scientific explanations and expert advice, *The Mold Survival Guide* is a valuable resource for anyone worried about a common household problem that can have serious consequences.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"What molds are, why and where they grow, and how to rid our living spaces of these dangerous fungal microorganisms. The authors furnish clear explanations, examples from actual situations, and valuable advice... A storehouse of knowledge presented in a readable style." (Library

Journal)"Mold is a hot issue today, but the problem dates back to biblical times. Jeffrey May, author of My House is Killing Me, is a recognized authority on indoor pollution who focuses here on mold—how it prosters, how it affects one's health, and how it can be remediated." (Science News)"Their handbook delivers both scientific explanations and expert advice. The most common problems can be headed off or corrected once the homeowner understands the life cycle of mold. That alone is worth the price of the book." (Boston Globe Magazine)"A good job on a subject most of us would find less than stimulating... Were I actively listing and selling homes, I would keep this book handy as a reference and I would take every opportunity to see how the issue is playing out at the local level. Home inspectors would obviously be a great source of information, both academic and practical." (Dr. Kenneth W. Edwards Real Estate Professional)" The Mold Survival Guide details mold problems and eradication methods and includes photographs—some in color—that show what water damage and mold infestation look like." (Jim Watkins Washington Times)"Mold. It's a scary, mystifying and shudder inducing word... The Mays explore what mold is, where and why it grows, how it flourishes, and how it may or may not cause health problems. Readers learn how to identify mold, how to prevent it from spreading and when to call an expert." (Baltimore Sun)"Recommended particularly for concerned homeowners and renovation architects, The Mold Survival Guide: For Your Home and for Your Health outlines the causes of moisture problems in old and new buildings... Leading you through his most tried-and-true forensic methodologies, Jeff May gives you the tools to root out the causes of the bedeviling musty odors that have forced homeowners to flee their homes." (Courtney Miller ArchitectureBoston)"This book will help you make sensible decisions and cut through the 'fear factor' language in a lot of advertising." (Holly Hayes San Jose Mercury News)"[May] brings real-world experience with the scientific understanding to match. That is a rare combination. The book is a good read for the lay individual concerned about mold, the parent with a child with asthma, chronic sinusitis, or chronic non-seasonal allergy. It is also a good read for mold professionals of limited experience and those planning to enter the profession." (Thad Godish, PhD, C.I.H., Ball State University)

"[May] brings real-world experience with the scientific understanding to match. That is a rare combination. The book is a good read for the lay individual concerned about mold, the parent with a child with asthma, chronic sinusitis, or chronic non-seasonal allergy. It is also a good read for mold professionals of limited experience and those planning to enter the profession." -- Thad Godish, PhD, C.I.H., Ball State University --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

We had to go through two rounds of mold remediation at our house because the first time around I really knew nothing about it. After reading this helpful guide I realized several issues that still needed to be addressed so I hired a better company to take care of those. Highly recommended.

This book is a must read for anyone that lives in any kind of dwelling. Molds, and more, can be anywhere and everywhere. And they can make you sick. This man knows his business and explains things in a most intriguing way. I did some research on household molds when a friend developed symptoms and both Jeffrey May's books (The Mold Survival Guide and My House is Killing Me) have important information for every home dweller.

The Mold Survival Guide is a thoughtful and thorough guide to a genuinely difficult problem facing many homeowners. May balances what appears to be good science with practical, accessible advice that homeowners can use as they understand, assess and resolve problems with mold. Although the problems are real, and potentially serious, this book avoids the hysteria that sometimes colors the topic. At the same time, it never trivializes or dismisses the very real risks that molds pose to health.

The Mold survival Guide for Your Home and for Your Health provides a very thorough, comprehensive discussion of hidden sources of indoor water damage. Excess moisture contributions from crawlspaces, basements, bathroom and kitchen plumbing and roof leaks are thoroughly explained. May explains how undersized and oversized air conditioning compressors can produce and distribute excess moisture. This book was published in 2004. Over a thousand quality peer reviewed scientific studies of mold toxicity have bee published, since publication of this book. Mold Warriors and Surviving Mold, by Ritchie Shoemaker, MD, are both far better sources of leading edge information concerning medical problems caused by Water Damaged Buildings. May deserves credit for observing that mold spore concentrations of less than 500 per cubic meter can cause health problems. Some especially helpful and innovative information May provided explained how to determine whether mold odors were coming from wall cavities. May recommends using 20 inch box fans to exhaust air from sealed rooms with mold odors and explains air from wall cavities will flow into the room, thru electrical outlets and other openings to the wall cavity. Steven Sponaugle

Excellent information. See review for his workbook. Same applies here.

Jeff is a consummate mold expert and this book is clearly worth reading. Talking with Jeff in person, however, is even better!

This book covers it all- scientific descriptions of mold itself, how to identify the presence of mold in your home, and how to remediate it. The writing is clear and concise. The authors are very careful in their descriptions in order to insure the safety and well being of anyone who is managing a mold situation in their homes. Excellent book!

This book is full of useful information and a good read. I was amazed and pleased to finally find the information I was looking for. Excellent guide for anyone with mold issues trying to find the source of mold in their home and fix it. Very glad I purchased this book. ERMI tests of dust samples from my apartment showed a high burden of mold, including a small amount of the dreaded black mold species (*stachybotrys chartarum*). My Doctors knew a lot about the new, EPA developed ERMI test but none of the local mold experts knew anything about it. One asked me to spell it for him! I couldn't find anyone who could advise me on what to do about my apartment. After reading the book, I was able to get a phone consult with the author, Jeff Mays. He is the only person I found who was knowledgeable of both the ERMI, biological view of mold problems and the remediation, construction side. He was able to tell me how to clean & seal my apartment so I could return. Unfortunately the book was written before the ERMI test came out (2007 I think) so it is not covered in it.

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