



Radon in North Carolina

Radiation Protection

Radon Checklist

Follow this checklist carefully to get the most accurate radon test results. Do-It-Yourself testers and certified radon testing service providers, should be able to confirm that all the items in this checklist have been followed.



Prior to testing:

- Occupants notified of importance of proper testing conditions. The directions should be explained carefully both oral and a written copy given to the occupants.

Do-It-Yourself testers: use one of the recommended radon measurement devices and follow included manufacturer's instructions.

Testing professional: Only hire a certified radon service provider and ask to see their certification identification card. The radon service provider's identification number should be clearly visible on the test report.

- Is there an active radon reduction system in the home?

If YES: Make sure it is operating at least 24 hours prior to beginning the radon test. Proceed with testing procedures.

If NO: Then proceed with testing procedures.

- Closed house conditions maintained at least 12 hours prior to short-term testing.

During testing:

- Conduct the radon test for a minimum of 48 hours. (Or longer depending on the type of test purchased)
- Closed house conditions maintained during duration of testing period (for short-term testing).

After testing:

- If Radon result is greater than 4 pCi/L, repeat the test for a second time in the same location.

If retest result is greater than 4 pCi/L, consult with a certified Radon Mitigator (which can be found at www.ncradon.org).

- If Radon result is less than 4 pCi/L it is recommended by EPA that homes are tested every 2 years to monitor the radon levels.

Important Things to Note:

Definitions:

Short-Term Testing Device: Any Radon testing device in duration between 48 hours to 90 days.


Long-Term Testing Device: Any Radon testing device in duration greater than 90 days.


Closed House Conditions: Keeping all windows closed, keeping doors closed except for normal entry and exit, and not operating fans or other machines which bring in air from the outside. Fans that are part of a Radon Reduction System and HVAC Systems may operate normally during the testing period.


Do-It-Yourself Testers: Private citizens which purchase Radon Test Kits and perform the Radon Test themselves.


Testing Professionals: Radon Testing/Measurement Specialist that is certified by NEHA or NRSB. This person has passed a Radon Measurement Proficiency Exam.

Professional Radon Mitigator: Radon Mitigator that is certified by NEHA or NRSB. This person has passed a Radon Mitigation Proficiency Exam.

 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that short-term radon testing, which lasts for no more than a week in length, be done under closed-house conditions.

 When doing short-term testing lasting less than 4 days, it is important to maintain closed-house conditions for at least 12 hours before the beginning of the test and for the entire test period. Do not operate fans or other machines which bring in air from the outside.

 Maintain closed-house conditions during the entire time of a short-term test, especially for tests shorter than one week in length. Operate the home's heating and cooling systems normally during the test. For tests lasting less than one week, only operate air conditioning units which recirculate interior air.

 If a radon reduction system is in place, make sure the system is working properly and will be in operation during the entire radon test.

Do not disturb the test device at any time during the test.

Be sure that you or the professional radon tester can demonstrate or provide information to ensure that the testing conditions were not violated during the testing period.