

Tips for Using Charcoal Pouch Radon Test Kits

Preparing for your short-term test

- Open your test kit package but do not open the inner package containing the radon testing device. Your package should contain a radon test kit, an instruction sheet, a data sheet, and a return postage-paid mailer. Carefully read and follow the instructions that come with your test kit.



- Complete the data sheet included in the test kit. Be sure to fill in the name, address of the tested home, as well as where to send the results.
- **Close all windows and doors at least 12 hours before starting the test, and keep them closed during the test. Doors should remain closed except for normal entry and exit.**



- Weather warning: You should not conduct short-term tests during unusually severe storms or periods of unusually high winds.

Starting your test

- When you are ready to test, open the inner plastic bag and remove the charcoal test pouch (test device).
- Place the test device on a flat surface with the paper side facing upwards.
- **Place the test device in a regularly used room, such as a living room, playroom, den, or bedroom, on the lowest level, but not your kitchen or bathroom. Keep away from heat and humidity!**

- Place the test device in the breathing zone—not too high and not too low. Place it at least 20 inches above the floor in a location where it won't be disturbed, away from drafts, direct sunlight, children and pets, and at least 3 feet from exterior walls or doors. A living room coffee table or dining room table are good options.



- Test devices should be at least 4 inches from other objects .
- On the data sheet, write down the start date and time and where you placed the test device (floor level and room).

During your test

- Allow the kit to sit undisturbed for 2-4 days.**
- Do not operate fans or other machines that bring in air from the outside - it may change your test result. Re-circulated air from heating or air conditioning systems is fine. (Fans that are part of a radon mitigation system or small exhaust fans that run for short periods may be used during the test.)

To end the test

- At the end of the 2 to 4 day period, first record the stop date and time on the data sheet.
- Make sure the data sheet is filled out with test location, name, and address, and, if different, the name and address of where to send the results. For your records, write down and keep the kit serial number and date you mail the device on the top section of the data sheet.
- Place the data sheet and test device in the mailer and seal it. If necessary, you may use tape to secure the seal.
- Send the mailer to the lab address right away as the test devices are time sensitive and a delay in mailing can invalidate the test result.**
- You should receive your test results within a few weeks.

