

How to Collect Radon in Air Samples

Kit RF with Field Blank

Please read all instructions before starting the test. **You must start this test within 14 days of purchasing it** and plan to return it to the lab within **5 days after you finish testing**.

If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact the laboratory by calling 802-338-4724 or email AHS.VDHLabCustomerService@vermont.gov

Your Kit Comes with

- Two short term test devices and one field blank
- One sample collection worksheet



Prepare to Test

- Read the sample return instructions included with your order carefully to ensure you can return the kit within the required timeframe. You can also visit HealthVermont.gov/SampleDropOff for online sample drop-off information.
- Before you start the test, close all windows and exterior doors **for at least 12 hours** to minimize air exchange.
 - Keep all windows closed during the test. Keep exterior doors closed as much as you can during the test by only opening them to enter or exit.
- Do not use clothes dryers, fireplaces or ventilation systems during the test period.
- Plan to test when the weather is calm. Do not start the test on very windy or stormy days.
- Choose where you will put the devices. They should be placed:
 - On the lowest level of the home that is regularly used (finished or unfinished).
 - At least 3 feet above the floor and at least 4 inches away from other objects.
 - **Do not** put the devices in a kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, garage, crawl space, or near sump pumps.

How to Test

- Open the box and remove the test devices from the plastic bags.
 - **Save the plastic bags and the white and brown mailing boxes. You will reuse these at the end of the test.**



HealthVermont.gov/Radon
802-863-7200



Radon in Air Sampling Instructions for Kit RF (Short term SST) with Field Blank, Version: 1.0, CHEM-423B

- **Do NOT open** the field blank. It will be clearly marked. Place it next to the other two devices for the duration of the testing period. Open the other two devices by unscrewing the top and place them next to each other. Leave the devices open for **at least 48 hours and up to a maximum of 7 days**.
- Write the **date and time** you started the test on the sample collection worksheet.
- When the test period is over, stop the test by pushing the tops down and tightly screwing them closed.
- Write the **date and time** you finished the test on the sample collection worksheet.
- Put the devices in the plastic bags. Put the bagged devices and the completed sample collection worksheet in the white box.



Return Your Samples to the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory

Return your devices to the lab within **5 days** of stopping the test by:

- Mailing or shipping: Place the white box into the brown mailing box and mail or ship it to the lab.
- Dropping them off in person at the lab
- Dropping them off in person at a local health office

Read the sample return instructions or visit [HealthVermont.gov/SampleDropOff](https://www.healthvermont.gov/SampleDropOff) for detailed return instructions, drop-off locations and hours.

If you do not use the devices, do not throw them out. You can return them to the lab for a new kit or a refund.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can the laboratory reject or qualify my sample?

Yes. Your samples may be rejected or qualified if you **do not** open the devices within 14 days of purchasing them, if you **do not** follow the placement or sampling instructions, or if you **do not** return the devices within 5 days of closing them. This means you might not get a result.

When can I expect my test results?

The lab will send your test results about 7 business days after your sample was received.

How often should I test for radon in air?

The Health Department recommends testing your home for radon in air every five years.

Where can I find additional information?

Learn more about radon at [www.HealthVermont.gov/Radon](https://www.healthvermont.gov/Radon).

