



Whether a living space or used for storage, basements must be carefully planned. It is an area subject to humidity issues, which can lead to the growth of mould.

**RISK FACTORS**

**BE ALERT IF THERE IS :**

**In your basement:**

- 1 A dryer vent that exhausts inside the building;
- 2 A dehumidifier not connected to a drain;
- 3 A carpet laid directly on concrete slabs or earth floor;
  - A storage closet along an exterior wall without sufficient ventilation;
  - Stuffy, musty or damp odour in rooms with carpeting;
  - Water condensation on laundry room windows;
  - Non-watertight backflow damper on the floor drain.

**In your crawl space:**

- An access hatch that is not watertight.

**In your garage:**

- Accumulation of water on the slab;
- Accumulation of sediment in drains or the drainage system trap.

**PREVENTION AND CORRECTION ADVICE**

**CONSULT A BUILDING EXPERT QUICKLY IF THERE IS:**

**In your basement:**

- 4 Backflow from the drains or odours during rainstorms;
- 5 Efflorescence on concrete walls;
- 6 Mould appearing on exterior wall cladding;
  - A cold room that is poorly or not insulated from the rest of the basement without an independent air supply and exhaust;
  - Concrete delamination (fracturing);
  - Mould visible in cold room.

**In your crawl space:**

- An earth floor not covered in sealed polyethylene under gravel;
- Insufficient, blocked or no exterior openings;
- Mould on a wood structure.

**In your garage:**

- 7 Efflorescence on concrete slab;
- Backflow from the drains or odours during rainstorms;
- Insufficient heating that does not allow snow and ice on vehicles to melt and flow into drains;
- Inadequate ventilation preventing excess humidity on vehicles from evaporating.

**Important: Consult an insulation expert to verify that any work done conforms to installation rules for damp settings.**

**QUICK SAFETY TIPS**

- A Avoid accumulation of ice in window wells, garage entrances and emergency exits.
- B Ensure that drainage covers are installed correctly.
  - Adjust crawl space access hatch if it is unstable.

**IMPORTANT**

The floor in a house is rarely watertight. Humidity from the basement always ends up migrating to the storey above. An insulated floor will reduce your heating costs.

