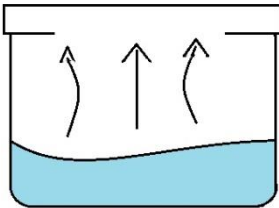


Why Trust Anyone Else?

Toilet Mold

No, I'm not talking about the ring in the bowl; this is about the inside of the tank. The photo, to the right, shows this house has a lot of iron in the water and that is what caused the orange color but look above the orange stain and you will see a black discoloration. The black discoloration is mold.

The problem rears its ugly head when the toilet is flushed and the mold spores can become airborne. As the tank fills it pushes air out from under the lid and with it any mold spores that may be ready for flight.



The material of a toilet is made from special clay called vitreous china. Clay itself will grow mold as it is an organic material that can be broken down by mold but once the clay is kiln fired at about 2,200 °F it is now closer to concrete and becomes a material that no longer can be broken down by mold. So, if this is true how can the mold be there? The mold is growing on dirt and debris that has attached itself to the tank and the lid. Therefore it is fairly easy to clean. The inside of the tank and underside of the lid are not always as smooth a glaze as the outside and can collect debris easier than the smooth outside surface of the toilet.



Basically any household cleaner can clean the mold off of this type of surface. A pressure washer would be great but hot water with an anti-bacterial soap would work well here too. Hydrogen peroxide or ammonia can be used as well (be careful with these products). The bigger problem comes when you need to clean the tank. The entire tank may need to be removed cleaned out (preferably outside) and then reinstalled. This may be beyond some do-it-yourself skill sets.

A mold safety mask and other gear for personal protection when removing mold is of the utmost importance. Touching and inhaling mold spores can trigger all sorts of health problems, including respiratory disorders, asthma attacks, infections like sinusitis and pneumonia, allergic reactions, fatigue, and painful inflammation of the joints. The process of cleaning up mold stirs up mold spores and increases the likelihood of mold-related illness. The proper protective gear is necessary in order to protect your health.