

# Mold Alert

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## *Operation Manual*

**P0270**



## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of the P0270 Mold Alert!

Mold is as old as the Earth and it's everywhere. Under the right set of conditions, it can actually start to grow inside your home. Some types of mold even contain mycotoxins (toxins produced by fungus-type organisms) which can be hazardous to your health.

Mold can grow at humidity levels over 65%. If you keep the relative humidity in your home below 50%, mold growth can be inhibited. The Mold Alert Thermo-Hygrometer allows you to monitor some of the key factors in the home that can lead to mold, dust mites, and bacteria.

## FEATURES

- Audible and Visual alarm function to indicate risk of mold
- Room Temperature
- Indoor Relative Air Humidity
- Dew Point
- Maximum and Minimum values
- On/Off switch for audio alarm

## OVERVIEW

### **The interaction of temperature and air humidity:**

Cold air absorbs little or no moisture. When this air enters living areas it becomes warmer and can then absorb much more water vapor. This interdependency of temperature and relative humidity is expressed by means of the dew-point.

If the measuring unit indicates an air temperature of 68°F and a relative humidity of 65%, then the dew-point temperature will be 56°F. What does this mean? That the air, in your bedroom for instance, will condense and form water droplets on surfaces that are cooler than 56°F, and these damp areas may lead to mold.

## OVERVIEW

If the air is at a relative humidity of 40%, then the dew-point temperature is only 43°F. The walls and ceilings would therefore have to be significantly colder for the air to reach its dew-point and for water droplets to form.

### **How to achieve the correct temperature and air humidity:**

Tips for active heating and ventilation:

- Check the dew-point! Surfaces of walls should not fall below a temperature of 59°F.
- Avoid shutting off the heat completely when leaving the house for extended periods of time.
- Ventilate in all weather conditions, even if it's raining.
- Open the windows for a short time to air the room. A partially opened window does not have the desired effect, wastes heating energy and can even promote the formation of mold.
- If the room air is too dry, particularly in the winter, then electrical air humidifiers are recommended, since airing at low temperatures will tend to decrease the humidity further.
- When airing a room, a few minutes should be sufficient. Check the value indicated on your Mold Alert thermo-hygrometer.

## STARTUP

1. Select °F/°C and place the audio alarm switch on the back of the unit in "on" mode.
2. Slide off front compartment and install 2 batteries 1.5V AA. Once these are in place, the frowning face on the display will light up briefly and the alarm will sound for 2 seconds.
3. Replace battery compartment cover.
4. Remove the protection film on the display.
5. The unit is now ready to use.

## SET UP

### **Suggestions for Placement of the Unit**

There is an opening on the back of the unit, which allows it to be easily hung from the wall. In addition, a base is provided for the unit to be placed on any surface in a standing position.

Since the humidity level within rooms can vary greatly, the Mold Alert should be placed in an area most likely subject to mold growth. Problem areas are often basements, closets, surfaces near windows and exterior walls. Anywhere in a home that is damp or has suffered from water damage is also a prime location for mold growth.

## READING THE DISPLAY

Three values of measurement are displayed simultaneously. The left column shows the indoor relative humidity (%), the middle column indicates room temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}/^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), and the right column displays the dew point (Td).

The temperature can be displayed either in Fahrenheit or Celsius by adjusting the  $^{\circ}\text{C}/^{\circ}\text{F}$  switch on the back of the unit. The audio alarm can be activated using the "AI On / AI Off" switch on the back of the unit.

Risk of mold formation occurs at humidity levels exceeding 65%. When this point is reached, the frowning face icon on the display will light up. If the audio alarm is activated, it will also sound. An arrow pointing up will be flashing next to the relative humidity display. The audio alarm can be silenced by pressing any button.

When humidity levels are reduced below 65% the frowning face icon will stop flashing and the alarm (if activated) will be silenced. The arrow pointing up display will persist to indicate high humidity levels have occurred in the past. The arrow pointing up display can be reset by pressing any button.

## **Minimum/Maximum Temperatures**

- The highest temperature and humidity values since the last reset can be displayed by pressing the Min/Max button on the right side of the Mold Alert.
- The lowest temperature and humidity levels since the last reset, can be displayed by pressing the Min/Max button a second time.
- The current values can be shown again by pressing the Min/Max button a third time.
- The reset key is located above the Min/Max button on the right side of the unit and is used to reset Min/Max values when they are displayed.

## **If humidity levels are high**

- To lower humidity, you can open windows or put a fan in the area to better ventilate it, which may prevent mold growth.
- If there is moisture or a water leak, mold growth may have occurred. This mold can cause health problems and the sooner you detect it, the more likely you are to be able to control it.
- If you suspect that you have a mold problem, and the remedies outlined in this manual prove to be insufficient, please contact a mold control professional.

## **If humidity levels are low enough**

The area in which you have placed the unit is safe from mold growth, however the Mold Alert thermo-hygrometer is a useful product to have in any home due to its accurate measurements of temperature, dew point, and humidity.

## **MAINTENANCE**

- Do not expose the Mold Alert to extreme temperatures, vibration, or shock.
- Clean the unit with a soft damp cloth. Do not use solvents or scouring agents.
- Replace batteries if the unit stops working.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Model:	P0270
Relative Humidity:	1% to 99% RH, accuracy $\pm 5\%$
Room Temperature:	14°F to 140°F, accuracy $\pm 1\%$
Alarm Trigger Point:	65% humidity triggers audio/visual alarm
Display:	User selectable F° or C°, Min/Max values
Batteries:	2 x AA (not included)
Weight:	4.8 oz.
Dimensions:	3 3/4"H x 3 3/4"W x 2 1/2"D

(Specifications subject to change without notice)



The Swiss precision hygroTECH sensor allows our Mold Alert to give accurate measurements when checking a room's ambient condition.



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If you experience difficulty in the operation of your unit, or if your unit requires repair please contact:

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