

Radon Quick Facts

- Radon is a radioactive gas that is released by the breakdown of uranium in the soil.
- Radon is odourless, tasteless, and colourless, and can enter buildings and enclosed spaces undetected. Since Canadian homes are sealed against the weather, radon can become trapped indoors, building up to dangerous levels.
- Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.
- Radon-related lung cancer is responsible for more Canadian deaths than motor vehicle collisions, house fires, carbon monoxide poisoning and accidental drowning combined.
- Radon can be found in elevated levels in homes across Canada, regardless of location. The only way to know if a home has an elevated level of radon is to test.
- Only 6% of Canadians have had their home tested for radon (as compared to 98% of Canadian households that have a smoke alarm).
- The Government of Canada recommends that homes above 200 Bq/m³ be reduced to as low as possible.
- Health Canada estimates that 7% (over 1 million) of Canadian homes have high radon levels.

In Ontario, Health Canada estimates that **8% of homes have radon concentrations above the radon guideline.**

Testing for radon.

A long-term radon measurement device (or test kit) looks like a hockey puck and is easy to use. Homeowners simply,

- pick a good location for the device;
- leave it in place for 91 days or more;
- return the device to a designated lab and wait for a radon-level report.
- If the radon level is high (above 200 Bq/m³), homeowners should take action to reduce it by consulting a certified radon reduction specialist.

To find a radon reduction professional who is certified by the Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program (C-NRPP), visit takeactiononradon.ca/test/find-a-radon-measurement-professional/

For more information about radon, visit takeactiononradon.ca