

Advisory: Radon Testing with Consumer Digital Radon Monitors

Any home can have dangerous levels of **radon gas**. It is the number one cause of lung cancer for people who never smoked and the second leading cause of lung cancer overall. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends all homes be tested for radon and provides information on how it may impact your health: [Health Risk of Radon | US EPA](#).

The EPA recommends either hiring a certified/licensed radon professional or using a test kit to measure radon in your home.

To locate a professional in your state, visit: [How can you find a qualified radon service provider in your area? | US EPA](#).

To test for radon yourself, there are **two types of devices** you can use:

1

A **Radon Test Kit** is sent to a laboratory for analysis after the kit has been placed for the minimum amount of time. Test kits need to be approved for use by an independent third-party.

To learn more about these kits, how often to test, and how to place one in your home, visit [A Citizen's Guide to Radon: The Guide to Protecting Yourself and Your Family from Radon](#).

To obtain an approved test kit, visit [Purchase a test kit | National Radon Program Services](#) or [Radon | American Lung Association](#). Test kits may also be purchased through retail stores.

2

A **Consumer Digital Radon Monitor** measures radon continuously and is available for purchase online and in retail stores. The accuracy and reliability of these monitors have not been verified by an independent third-party. However, these monitors provide continuous results in real-time so may be beneficial.

If you use a Consumer Digital Radon Monitor, carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions paying special attention to:

- Where and how to **place the monitor**.
- The recommended length of time to test. The minimum length for any radon test is **48 hours**.
- When and how to **read the results**. Some Consumer Digital Radon Monitors have different time frames for radon results.

Note: If you share your monitor with others, reset the monitor and provide the manufacturer's instructions to the next user.

**To begin the test, place the monitor in the lowest lived-in level of the home.
DO NOT MOVE THE MONITOR until the test is complete.**

For tips on how to place your monitor, visit [EPA's A Citizen's Guide to Radon](#).

After reviewing results, users should verify results using an approved testing method by:

- Hiring a certified/licensed radon professional, or
- Using an approved test kit to measure radon in your home.

➤ ***If you are considering whether your home needs mitigation:***

Because the accuracy and reliability of these monitors have not been evaluated by an independent third-party, results may be higher or lower than actual radon levels. Long-term testing is advised for mitigation decisions due to seasonal changes and other conditions.

➤ ***If you are checking whether your radon mitigation system is continuing to work properly:***

Because monitors may lose their accuracy and reliability over time, users should verify radon levels periodically using an approved method.

➤ ***If you are considering selling your home:***

Due to time constraints and the need for reliable results, Consumer Digital Radon Monitors should never be used in real estate transactions. Some states require, and real estate agents expect, the test for a real estate transaction be performed using an approved method.

Key Messages:

Visit [Health Risk of Radon / US EPA](#) to understand the health risks associated with different radon levels and recommendations on when to mitigate your home.

Consumer Digital Radon Monitors are **NOT** for testing during real estate transactions.

Consumer Digital Radon Monitors are **NOT** for making radon mitigation decisions.



 <https://crcpd.org/radon/>

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