

The Radon Lady

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| | 3-7 DAY SHORT TERM | LONG TERM (90-360 days) |
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| What does it show? | Short term testing gives a “snapshot” of the radon concentrations under “worst case” conditions at the time of the sampling. | Long term testing determines radon levels of the building as used by its occupants. When is it used? |
| When is it used? | To get an indication of radon potential. This is the type of testing used in real estate transactions and to get a cursor idea of the radon potential. | To determine average radon levels over longer periods of time under “normal living conditions” for the building with those occupants. |
| What is required? | “Closed house conditions” are needed for 3-7 day short term testing. This means that the house (building) is closed except for normal entry and exit. | There are no special requirements. The test is performed under normal living conditions. |
| How accurate is it? | If the test conditions are followed, it is accurate for the time during which the sampling was performed. It may not however be indicative of the long term exposure in the building, as conditions can change due to many variables. | Long term testing is considered a more accurate indicator of radon levels as the building is currently used. A longer test is more representative., The Radon Lady recommends testing for “one closed and one open” season .. e.g. winter and spring; summer and autumn. |
| How does it work? | Most disposable passive short term sampling devices collect radon or a radon progeny (byproduct) in charcoal or a liquid. When the device is submitted to the laboratory the concentration of radon is extrapolated from what remains based on the sampling dates. | Disposable long term devices contain a material that is “etched” each time it is hit by an alpha particle emitted from a radon byproduct. The surface of the material is examined and the “etches” are counted. Average radon can be calculated from the number of etches and the length of the testing period. |
| What does it cost? | \$16.99 for a single self-test kit. Real Estate transactions require a Radon Professional and are more expensive. | \$21.95 using The Radon Lady special price . |
| What does the Radon Lady use? | The Radon Lady prefers the AirChek short term test kit. It is easy to use, easy to return to the laboratory, and they typically report results the same day they receive the it for analysis. | The Radon Lady prefers the Alpha Track long term monitor, also available from AirChek . |