



## WHAT IS RADON?

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in soil. Outdoors, radon levels are low because they are diluted. However, in our homes radon levels can build up and increase our risk for developing lung cancer.

Radon enters our homes from the soil through cracks in concrete floors and walls, floor drains, sump pits, etc. If the concentration of radon increases, your family may be at risk.

**If you knew there was one simple way to reduce the risk of lung cancer caused by radon for your whole family, you'd do it, right?**

Well, there is...

**IF YOU SMOKE AND YOUR HOME HAS HIGH RADON LEVELS, YOUR RISK OF LUNG CANCER IS HIGHER**



## GET YOUR TEST KIT

- Order a test kit at [www.sosradon.org/purchase-kits](http://www.sosradon.org/purchase-kits)
- Or by calling **1-800-SOS-RADON** (1-800-767-7236)
- Buy at your local home improvement or hardware store.
- For info on requesting a test kit at [hhs.iowa.gov](http://hhs.iowa.gov).

## RADON RISKS



## THE SILENT KILLER

You can't see radon, and you can't smell it or taste it. But, radon may be a problem in your home.



*Scan with your smart phone camera to view a map containing contact info for your state's radon program.*



## WHY CARE ABOUT RADON?

The air on planet earth contains radon. As we breathe, the radon gas can release tiny bursts of energy that can damage living lung tissue and can lead to lung cancer over time.

The Surgeon General warns that **radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S.** Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is higher.



## TEST YOUR HOME

Testing is the only way to know if your family is at risk from radon. Testing is inexpensive and easy.

- 1 Do-it-yourself test kits are simple to buy and use. It's as easy as opening a package, and putting the test kit in the right place. Be sure the cost of the lab analysis is included in the price
- 2 When the test is done, mail the kit to the manufacturer in the prepaid mailer that comes with the kit. Results usually come back within a few weeks.
- 3 Not a do-it-yourselfer? Hire a qualified radon professional to test your home. Find a local list of qualified radon test professionals:



Scan with your smartphone camera

[www.sosradon.org](http://www.sosradon.org)



## WHAT IF MY RADON IS HIGH?

If your home has radon concentrations at or above the EPA's radon action level of 4 pCi/L, it can be fixed. You may want to consider fixing if levels are between 2 and 4, as a precautionary measure.

Fixing a radon problem reduces the risk of lung cancer for you and your family.

Information is available to fix a radon problem. Call the National Radon Fix-It Line, **1-800-644-6999**, for information about reducing radon in your home.

The cost to reduce radon depends on how your home was built. Most homes can be fixed for around \$1,200; about the same cost as other common home repairs. And, the repairs are *always* less expensive than paying medical bills for lung cancer diagnosis and treatment.

