

## Eradicating Mold – It's Not As Easy As You Think



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By

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Mold spores are resistant to many things including extreme temperatures, ultraviolet light, chemicals, and dry conditions.

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In addition to mold problems within the ISS, there are also concerns with mold on the outside walls of spacecraft. The two most common types of mold spores on the ISS are *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus*. Cortesão presented data at the Astrobiology Science Conference in 2019 indicating that the *Penicillium* can survive X-ray exposure at 200 times the dose that would kill a human. (Anonymous, 2019) High levels of contamination with *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus* can be dangerous to individuals with weakened immune systems. (Anonymous, 2019) Other literature indicates that even healthy individuals...

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