

# WASHINGTON MONTH-TO-MONTH LEASE AGREEMENT

1. **THE PARTIES.** This Washington Month-to-Month Lease Agreement (the "Agreement") made on \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy) is between:

Landlord Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Landlord")

Landlord Address: \_\_\_\_\_, AND

Tenant Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Tenant")

The Landlord and Tenant are collectively referred to in this Agreement as the "Parties."

HEREINAFTER, the Tenant agrees to lease the Premises from the Landlord under the following terms and conditions:

2. **PROPERTY.** Landlord hereby leases the property located at: \_\_\_\_\_ to the Tenant (the "Premises").
3. **LEASE TERM.** This lease shall be considered a month-to-month lease. The Tenant shall be permitted to occupy the Premises on a month-to-month basis starting on \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy) and ending upon a notice of \_\_\_\_\_ (#) days from either party, in accordance with Washington law (the "Lease Term").
4. **RENT.** The rent to be paid by the Tenant to the Landlord throughout the Lease Term is to be made in monthly installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Rent"). The Rent shall be due on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of each month (the "Due Date"). The Rent shall be paid via the following instructions: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. **LATE FEE.** If Rent is not paid by the Due Date: (check one)
- The Tenant will be charged a fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Rent is considered late if it has not been paid within \_\_\_\_\_ (#) day(s) after the Due Date.
- There shall be NO Late Fee if the Rent is late.
6. **SECURITY DEPOSIT.** As part of this Agreement: (check one)
- The Landlord requires a payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Security Deposit") for the faithful performance of the Tenant under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The Security Deposit is required by the Tenant upon the execution of this Agreement. The Security Deposit shall be returned to the Tenant within \_\_\_\_\_ (#) days after the end of the Lease Term, less any itemized deductions. This Security Deposit shall not be credited towards any Rent unless the Landlord gives their written consent.
- The Landlord does NOT require the Tenant to pay a Security Deposit as part of this Agreement.

**7. RETURNED CHECKS (NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS).** If the Tenant pays the Rent with a check that bounces due to insufficient funds: (check one)

- The Tenant will be required to pay a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per incident.

- The Tenant will NOT be required to pay a fee.

**8. OCCUPANTS.** The Premises is to be occupied strictly as a residential dwelling with the following individual(s) in addition to the Tenant: (check one)

- \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Occupant(s)").

- There are NO Occupant(s) in addition to the Tenant.

**9. FURNISHINGS.** The Premises is: (check one)

- Furnished (or will be furnished) with the following items:

\_\_\_\_\_.

- NOT furnished.

**10. UTILITIES.** The Landlord shall pay for the following utilities and services to the Tenant, with any absent being the responsibility of the Tenant:

\_\_\_\_\_.

**11. PARKING.** The Tenant (check one):

- Is allotted \_\_\_\_\_ (#) parking space(s):

- Free of charge (included in the Rent)

- At a cost of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be paid ( Upon execution of this Agreement |  Monthly)

- Is NOT provided parking.

**12. PETS.** The Tenant is: (check one)

- Permitted to have \_\_\_\_\_ (#) pet(s) on the Premises, ONLY consisting of (list pet types):

\_\_\_\_\_.

If permitted, the Landlord shall charge a refundable pet deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover potential damage to the Premises caused by the Tenant's pet(s).

- NOT permitted to have pets of any nature on the Premises.

**13. SMOKING POLICY.** Smoking on the Premises is: (check one)

- Permitted ONLY in the following area(s): \_\_\_\_\_.

- Prohibited on the Premises and all Common Areas.

**14. NOTICES.** Any notice sent by the Landlord or the Tenant to each other shall use the following addresses:

Landlord Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tenant Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**15. INSPECTION OF PREMISES.** The Landlord and Landlord's agents shall have the right at all reasonable times during the Lease Term and any renewal thereof to enter the Premises for the purpose of inspecting the Premises and all buildings and improvements thereon by providing twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the Tenant. And for the purposes of making any repairs, additions or alterations as may be deemed appropriate by the Landlord for the preservation of the Premises or the building. The right of entry shall likewise exist for the purpose of removing placards, signs, fixtures, alterations or additions, that do not conform to this Agreement or to any restrictions, rules or regulations affecting the Premises.

**16. ATTORNEYS' FEES.** Should it become necessary for the Landlord to employ an attorney to enforce any of the conditions or covenants hereof, including the collection of rentals or gaining possession of the Premises, the Tenant agrees to pay all expenses so incurred, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

**17. WAIVER.** No delay or failure of the Landlord to enforce any part of this Agreement shall be deemed as a waiver thereof, nor shall any acceptance of any partial payment of Rent or any other amount due be deemed a waiver of the Landlord's right to the entire amount due.

**18. MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, & ALTERATIONS.** The Tenant will, at the Tenant's sole expense, keep and maintain the Premises in good, clean and sanitary condition and repair during the Lease Term and any renewal thereof. The Tenant shall be responsible to make all repairs to the Premises, fixtures, appliances and equipment therein that may have been damaged by the Tenant's misuse, waste or neglect, or that of the Tenant's family, agents or visitors. The Tenant agrees that no painting or alterations will be performed on or about the Premises without the prior written consent of the Landlord. The Tenant shall promptly notify the Landlord of any damage, defect or destruction of the Premises or in the event of the failure of any of the appliances or equipment. The Landlord will use its best efforts to repair or replace any such damaged or defective areas, appliances or equipment.

**19. SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof shall, for any reason and to any extent, be invalid or unenforceable, neither the remainder of this Agreement nor the application of the provision to other persons, entities or circumstances shall be affected thereby, but instead shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law.

**20. DEFAULT.** If the Tenant fails to comply with any of the financial or material provisions of this Agreement, or of any present rules and regulations or any that may be hereafter prescribed by the Landlord, or materially fails to comply with any duties imposed on the Tenant by State laws, within the time period after delivery of written notice by the Landlord specifying the non-compliance and indicating the intention of the Landlord to terminate the Agreement by

reason thereof, the Landlord may terminate this Agreement. If the Tenant fails to pay the Rent by the Due Date and the default continues for the time-period specified in the written notice thereafter, the Landlord may exercise any and all rights and remedies available to the Landlord by law or in equity and may immediately terminate this Agreement.

The Tenant will be in default if:

- a. The Tenant does not pay the Rent or any other amounts as they are owed;
- b. The Tenant, their guests, or the Occupant(s) violate this Agreement, or fire, safety, health, and/or criminal laws, regardless of whether arrest or conviction occurs;
- c. The Tenant abandons the Premises;
- d. The Tenant gives incorrect or false information in the rental application;
- e. The Tenant, or any Occupant(s), are arrested, convicted, or given deferred adjudication for a criminal offense involving actual or potential physical harm to a person, or involving possession, manufacture, or delivery of a controlled substance, marijuana, or drug paraphernalia under Washington statute;
- f. Any illegal drugs or paraphernalia are found in the Premises or on the person of the Tenant, guests, or Occupant(s) while on the Premises; and/or
- g. As otherwise allowed by law.

**21. ABANDONMENT.** Abandonment shall have occurred if, without notifying the Landlord, the Tenant is absent from the Premises for the State-mandated minimum time-period, or seven (7) days, whichever length of time is less. In the event of Abandonment, the Landlord will have the right to immediately terminate the Agreement and remove the Tenant's personal possessions.

**22. CONDITION OF PREMISES.** The Tenant has examined the condition of the Premises and by taking possession acknowledges that they have accepted the Premises in good order and in its current condition except as herein otherwise stated.

**23. POSSESSION & SURRENDER.** The Tenant shall be entitled to possession of the Premises on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Lease Term. Upon termination of the Agreement, the Tenant shall peaceably surrender the Premises to the Landlord in good condition, as it was at the commencement of the Agreement, excluding reasonable wear and tear.

**24. INSURANCE.** The Landlord and Tenant shall each be responsible for maintaining appropriate insurance for their respective interests in the Premises and property located on the Premises. The Tenant understands that the Landlord will not provide any insurance coverage for the Tenant's property. The Landlord will not be responsible for any loss of the Tenant's property, whether by theft, fire, riots, strikes, acts of God, or otherwise. The Landlord encourages the Tenant to obtain renter's insurance or other similar coverage to protect against risk of loss.

**25. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBLETTING.** The Tenant shall not assign this Agreement or sublet any portion of the Premises without prior written consent of the Landlord, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**26. JOINT AND SEVERAL.** If the Tenant is comprised of more than one person, each person shall be jointly and severally liable under this Agreement.

**27. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** The Tenant agrees to not possess any type of personal property that could be considered a fire hazard such as a substance having flammable or explosive characteristics on the Premises. Items that are prohibited to be brought into the Premises, other than for everyday cooking or the need of an appliance, includes but is not limited to gas (compressed), gasoline, fuel, propane, kerosene, motor oil, fireworks, or any other related content in the form of a liquid, solid, or gas.

**28. RETALIATION.** The Landlord is prohibited from making any type of retaliatory acts against the Tenant including, but not limited to, restricting access to the Premises, decreasing or cancelling services or utilities, failing to repair appliances or fixtures, or any other type of act that could be considered unjustified.

**29. INDEMNIFICATION.** The Landlord shall not be liable for any damage or injury to the Tenant, or any other person, or to any property, occurring on the Premises, or any part thereof, or in common areas thereof, and the Tenant agrees to hold the Landlord harmless from any claims or damages unless caused solely by the Landlord's negligence.

**30. GOVERNING LAW.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state of Washington.

**31. LEAD-BASED PAINT.** The Premises (check one):

- Was built prior to 1978. An attachment titled "Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards" has been affixed to the Agreement and must be initialed and signed by the Parties.

- Was NOT built prior to 1978.

**32. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

**33. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement contains all of the terms agreed to by the Parties and may be modified or amended only by written agreement signed by the Landlord and Tenant. This Agreement replaces all previous discussions, understandings, and oral agreements. The Parties agree to the terms and conditions and shall be bound until the end of the Lease Term.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on the day and year first above written.

**Landlord's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Tenant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tenant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

- 1. MOLD INFORMATION.** The Tenant acknowledges they have been provided a written document outlining the health hazards caused by indoor mold growth and how it can be controlled. This is to satisfy the requirements of § 59.18.060(13) of the Code of Washington.
- 2. FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION.** The Tenant acknowledges they have been provided a written document disclosing fire safety and protection information, the building smoking policy, and emergency plans, if any. Furthermore, the Tenant acknowledges they have received a written disclosure informing them that the dwelling contains a smoke detection device that they are responsible for maintaining in working condition, or they may otherwise be subject to penalties for failing to do so. This disclosure satisfies the requirements found in § 59.18.060(12) of the Code of Washington.
- 3. LANDLORD AND AGENT INFORMATION.** The Tenant acknowledges they have received a written document containing the name and address of the Landlord, and of any individual authorized to act on their behalf for the service of notices and process. This is to satisfy the requirements of § 59.18.060(15) of the Code of Washington.
- 4. MOVE-IN CHECKLIST.** The Tenant acknowledges that if a security deposit is made, a move-in checklist detailing the condition of the dwelling must be provided by the Landlord. This is to meet the requirements found in § 59-18-260 of the Code of Washington.

# Mold

## What are molds?

Molds are tiny microscopic organisms that digest organic matter and reproduce by releasing spores. Molds are a type of fungi and there are over 100,000 species. In nature, mold helps decompose or break-down leaves, wood and other plant debris. Molds become a problem when they go where they are not wanted and digest materials such as our homes.

## What makes molds grow in my home?

Mold enters your home as tiny spores. The spores need moisture to begin growing, digesting and destroying. Molds can grow on almost any surface, such as wood, ceiling tiles, wallpaper, paints, carpet, sheet rock, and insulation. The mold grows best when there is lots of moisture from a leaky roof, high humidity, or flood. There is no way to get rid of all molds and mold spores from your home. But you can control mold growth by keeping your home dry.

## Can I be exposed to mold?

When molds are disturbed, they release spores into the air. You can be exposed by breathing air containing these mold spores. You can also be exposed through touching moldy items, eating moldy food or accidental hand to mouth contact.

## Do molds affect my health?

Most molds do not harm healthy people. But people who have allergies or asthma may be more sensitive to molds. Sensitive people may experience skin rash, running nose, eye irritation, cough, nasal congestion, aggravation of asthma or difficulty breathing. People with an immune suppression or underlying lung disease, may be at increased risk for infections from molds. A small number of molds produce toxins called mycotoxins. When people are exposed to high levels of mold mycotoxins they may suffer toxic effects, including fatigue, nausea, headaches, and irritation to the lungs and eyes. If you or your family members have health problems that you suspect are caused by exposure to mold, you should consult with your physician.

## When is mold a problem?

You know you have mold when you smell the "musty" odor or see small black or white specks along your damp bathroom or basement walls. Some mold is hidden growing behind wall coverings or ceiling tiles. Even dry, dead mold can cause health problems, so always take precautions when you suspect mold. Mold is often found in areas where water has damaged building materials and furniture from flooding or plumbing leaks. Mold can also be found growing along walls where warm moist air condenses on cooler wall surfaces, such as inside cold exterior walls, behind dressers, headboards, and in closets where articles are stored against walls. Mold often grows in rooms with both high water usage and humidity, such as kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, and basements. If you notice mold or know of water damaged areas in your home, it is time to take action to control its growth.

## When should I sample for mold?

You don't need to sample for mold because in most cases you can see or smell mold. Even a clean, dry house will have some mold spores, but not enough to cause health problems. If you smell mold it may be hidden behind wallpaper, in the walls or ceiling, or under the carpet. If you suspect you have hidden mold be very careful when you investigate, protect yourself from exposure in the same manner as you would for a clean-up. See the chart below.

## Can I control mold growth in my home?

Yes you can. Dry out the house and fix any moisture problems in your home:

- Stop water leaks, repair leaky roofs and plumbing. Keep water away from concrete slabs and basement walls.
- Open windows and doors to increase air flow in your home, especially along the inside of exterior walls. Use a fan if there are no windows available.
- Make sure that warm air flows into all areas of the home. Move large objects a few inches away from the inside of exterior walls to increase air circulation.
- Install and use exhaust fans in bathrooms, kitchens, and laundry rooms.
- Ventilate and insulate attic and crawl spaces. Use heavy plastic to cover earth floors in crawl spaces.
- Clean and dry water damaged carpets, clothing, bedding, and upholstered furniture within 24 to 48 hours, or consider removing and replacing damaged furnishings.
- Vacuum and clean your home regularly to remove mold spores.
- Check around your windows for signs of condensation and water droplets. Wipe them up right away so mold can't start to grow.

## What can I use to clean up mold?

Clean up mold and take care of the problem by following the advice above to keep your home dry and keep mold out. Act fast! Mold damages your home as it grows. Clean it up as soon as possible.

### Size the Moldy Area

Decide if you have a large or small area of mold. A small area is less than about ten square feet, or a patch three feet by three feet square. To clean a small area, follow the advice below. You may use a cotton face mask for protection.

If you have a lot of mold damage (more than ten square feet) consider hiring a cleaning professional. If the moldy area has been contaminated by sewage or is in hidden places, hire a professional. To find a professional, check under "Fire and Water Damage Restoration" in your Yellow Pages. If you decide to clean up on your own, follow the guidance below.

### Use Protection

Wear goggles, gloves, and breathing protection while working in the area. For large consolidated areas of mold growth, you should wear an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) approved particle mask.

### Seal the Area

Seal off area from the rest of your home. Cover heat registers or ventilation ducts/grills. Open a window before you start to clean up.

### Remove Items

Remove all your furnishings to a mold-free area. Clean the surrounding moldy area then follow cleaning directions below for the items you removed and the new space.

### Bag Moldy Trash

Bag all moldy materials and tie off the top of the bag. Bring them outdoors and place in your garbage container right away.

### Scrub Surfaces

- First wash with a mild detergent solution, such as laundry detergent and warm water. Allow to dry.
- (Optional step) Then wipe with a solution of 1/4 cup bleach to one gallon of water. Wait 20 minutes and repeat. Wait another 20 minutes.
- Last apply a borate-based detergent solution and don't rinse. This will help prevent mold from growing again. A borate-based laundry or dish washer detergent has "borate" listed on the ingredients label.

### Clean and Wash

Give the entire area a good cleaning, vacuum floors, and wash any exposed bedding or clothing.

### Monitor

Check regularly to make sure mold has not returned to the clean-up area.

### What cleans moldy furniture and other items?

- For wood, metal, plastic, glass, ceramics, and other objects that don't absorb water but are washable - wipe them with a solution of lukewarm water and laundry detergent.
- For clothes, bedding, and other materials that absorb water and are washable - wash them in the laundry.
- For beds, sofas, and other furniture that absorb water but are not washable - these items may need to be discarded. Or, try to save them by vacuuming well and allowing to air out. If there is no odor it may be okay. Mold can come back, so watch for any mold growth or mold related health problems. Discard the item if you suspect mold is growing inside or outside the item.

### Should I paint over mold?

No. Don't paint or caulk over mold. The mold will grow under the paint and the paint will peel.

### I'm a renter or landlord, what help can you provide for a mold problem?

Mold problems in buildings are a result of water and moisture problems. Excess moisture comes from leaks or condensation. Tenants and landlords both have responsibilities for addressing water and moisture problems that can cause mold. Generally, fixing leaks is the landlord's responsibility and reducing condensation is the renter's responsibility. See our [mold resources for renters and landlords](#) ([www.doh.wa.gov/rentermold](http://www.doh.wa.gov/rentermold)).

### Who are my local contacts for more information about mold?

In Washington, you can contact your [local county health department](#) ([www.doh.wa.gov/localhealth](http://www.doh.wa.gov/localhealth)) for more information about mold. If you live outside of Washington State, try contacting your county or state health department.

### More Information

- Mold and Indoor Air Quality Information Line: 360-236-3090
- [Mold, CDC](http://www.cdc.gov/mold) ([www.cdc.gov/mold](http://www.cdc.gov/mold))
- [Mold, EPA](http://www.epa.gov/mold) ([www.epa.gov/mold](http://www.epa.gov/mold))