

FAQ's for Basement Ventilation & Humidity Control Systems

How Does It Work?

Moisture becomes heavier as it cools and settles to the lowest point in the home. That is usually the basement, or crawlspace. By expelling the moist, musty air out of the lowest level in the residence, it causes the dryer, conditioned air from above to flow down and replace the removed air. In the average home the air is completely replaced about once an hour with a MBS installed.

Why Is A MBS Better Than A Dehumidifier?

- ✓ It will save on your electrical bill, perhaps up to \$500+ per year!
- ✓ It will change the air in your basement instead of re-circulating the stale air.
- ✓ It never, ever, needs emptying.
- ✓ It will never freeze up.
- ✓ It is quieter.
- ✓ It will not heat up your finished below grade basement, like a dehumidifier will in the summer time.
- ✓ It has a 10-year warranty; a dehumidifier only has 1-year warranty.



Do I Leave The Unit On All Year?

Yes! The fan is controlled by an electronic humidity sensor. If the humidity is higher than the setting, the fan will run at full speed. If the humidity reaches the desired setting, it will slow the fan down, but will still keep some air moving. So, the unit is left on year-round. It is a "set it and forget it" operation. If you leave your home to go south in the winter, or have a vacation home, it will smell better when you return.

What Happens to the Water?

You will not see any water since it does not condense it like a traditional dehumidifier. It is instead removing the moist air and replacing it with dryer, conditioned air from upstairs.



Won't It Increase My Heating and AC Costs?

Not at all. Since it is governed by an electronic humidity sensor, this will not be a problem. First of all, heat rises and you are pulling off cool air at the lowest point in the house. Drier air is easier to heat than damp air, so it will be easier to heat the air once the excess humidity is pulled out. In an air conditioned house, the air conditioner is acting like a big dehumidifier, and so it would be sending drier air into the basement, and when the humidity ventilation system senses the drier air, it will slow the fan right down.

Why Would I Choose the MBS over other units?

- ✓ Newer technology: electronically controlled instead of manually controlled.
- ✓ The humidity sensor in the MBS is electronic (more accurate), not mechanical as most humidistats are.
- ✓ In the event that warranty replacement of parts is needed, any homeowner who knows how to use a screwdriver can change the parts, which can easily be sent by UPS. The entire installation does not have to be dismantled to service the machine. The owner thus saves the cost of a service call, usually at least \$75.
- ✓ The competition has limitations as to where it can be installed, but we have not yet found an installation that will not accommodate a MBS.

Why Is The MBS So Economical To Run?

Since the unit draws less than one amp and uses less than 50 watts of electricity, it costs no more than leaving a light bulb on all the time. Dehumidifiers are small refrigerator compressors and are therefore costly to run. Our local electric company projects the cost of a dehumidifier to be \$50 a month or more. That means energy savings of \$500 per year!

Will A Humidity Ventilation System Make The Musty Basement Odor Go Away?

Usually within a few hours of installing a system, customers remark how much better their basement smells. This is because our units are diluting the smell existing in the basement by changing the air so frequently. However, after a unit is installed, it is the owner's responsibility to remove the sources of the odor such as old, molding cardboard boxes, rugs that have gotten wet and are now mold cultures, old clothes stuffed in an unheated, unventilated closet in the basement. It may also be necessary for the owner to wash all the walls and floor with a solution to kill mold that cannot be seen, but is contributing to the odor. Dirt crawl spaces should ideally be covered with a cement dust cap or 6 mil plastic sheeting.

The most common word we hear back from many of our customers that had musty basements is "We love the unit. It has done all we expected and more." However, our product is not a miracle worker, and good old-fashioned clean housekeeping practices are still necessary. Remember, if you haven't used something in 2 years, sell it, give it away, or throw it out!

What If I Am Unhappy With the Unit?

90% of our installers will offer up-to a 50% money back guarantee of the installation price, but only after you have given it a full 11 months to work in your basement. This 50% money back guarantee does not cover repairing any holes made during the installation. The vents provided during installation are left in place to act as a finish if the unit is removed. WHO ELSE GIVES YOU AS GOOD A GUARANTEE?

Are There Other Benefits to Installing A MBS?

Many replacement window companies have found that when they install new, expensive, tighter, replacement windows, the first winter the customers complain about their expensive windows sweating. Usually by installing a MBS the problem is corrected.

One remodeling contractor in Maine that installs vinyl siding told of a customer that had a new sliding patio door installed. For the following winters, she could not open the door all winter long, since an ice dam formed until spring set in. Once a humidity ventilation system was installed, she could use her sliding patio door, all winter long.