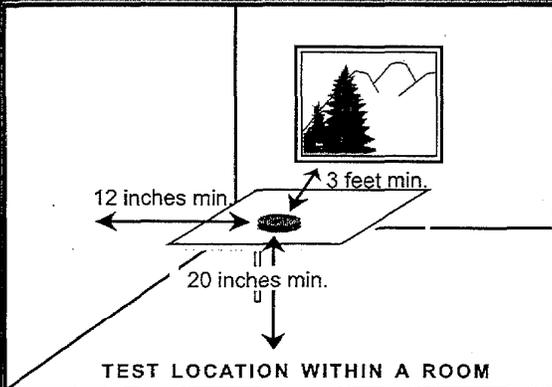
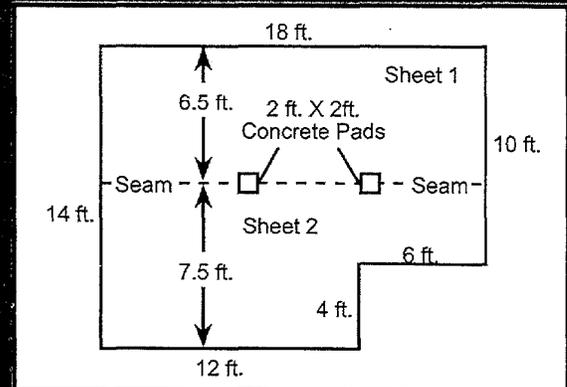


Protecting Your Home From Radon

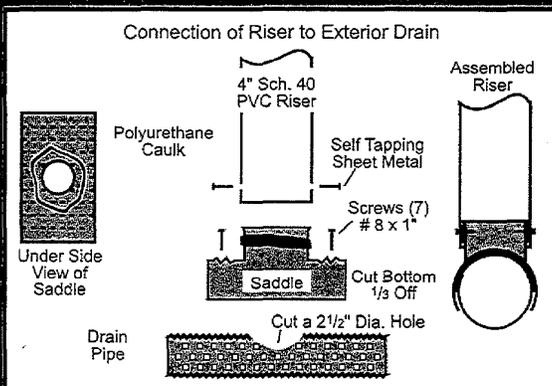
A Step-By-Step Manual For Radon Reduction



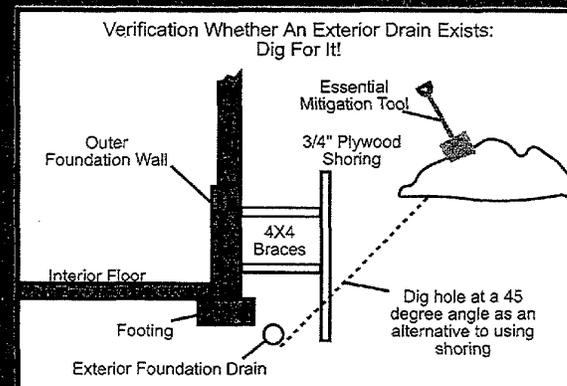
Measurements



Planning



Details



Safety

System Design

Health Effects

Safety Precautions

Illustrations

Radon Testing Methods

Selecting Contractors

Installation Details

Material Specifications

U.S. EPA Guidances

Check Lists

Material Sources

Systems For Existing Homes

Flow Charts

Tool Lists

Systems For New Homes

Radon Reduction Manual Contents

This detailed manual describes the most common methods for reliably reducing radon in a home.

Written in a non-technical format, the book includes step-by-step instructions and illustrations to guide homeowners through the radon mitigation process.

Chapter 1: Health Effects

A discussion of the risks associated with radon. Designed to validate the homeowner's concern.

Chapter 2: Measurements

A summary of the most common measurement methods. Designed to verify that proper pre-mitigation and postmitigation measurements are made.

Chapter 3: Radon Entry

An explanation of radon entry and how it is minimized by mitigation systems that employ active soil depressurization techniques (ASD).

Chapter 4: Crawl Space Systems

A detailed description of how sub-membrane depressurization systems are installed in homes with crawl spaces.

Chapter 5: Drainage Based Systems How existing sumps and drain tiles can be modified for cost-effective radon reduction.

Radon Reduction Manual Contents

(continued)

Chapter 6: Sub-Slab Systems

How sub-slab-depressurization systems are designed and installed in basement, slab-on-grade and multi-level homes.

Chapter 7: Piping Systems

A description of the fans, piping and indicator systems that are connected to the three ASD systems detailed in Chapters 4, 5, and 6.

Chapter 8: Caulking and Sealing

How caulking and sealing are used to improve the performance of ASD systems and reduce both operating costs and the potential for backdrafting.

Chapter 9: Combining Approaches How a combination of approaches is used in homes with multiple foundation types. Phasing and alternate technologies requiring contractors are described.

Chapter 10. Safety

An in-depth discussion of safe installation practices, including personal protective gear and area ventilation. The need to check for backdrafting and post-mitigation radon testing is emphasized.

Chapter 11. New Home Systems

How to install cost-effective radon control systems during new home construction.

Chapter 12. Selecting A Contractor

Some people may want to hire contractors to perform all or part of the repairs. This chapter discusses how to do this with confidence.

Concept of the Manual

Each of the chapters on installation are broken into two sections:

Planning the system, including the materials and equipment needed.

Installing the system with easy to follow, step-by-step instructions.

Activity steps are aided by illustrations, text, checklists and several stopping points, to assure that proper safety precautions are being followed.

Flow Chart & Checklists

A flow chart is included that guides the homeowner through the book as well as the process. This is designed to minimize the superfluous information a homeowner reads, while assuring that all necessary steps are followed.

Several checklists are included to assure that proper tools and materials are obtained.

Supplemental Information Included

- Local & national material supply sources
- U.S. EPA's Citizen's Guide
- U.S. EPA's Consumer's Guide
- U.S. EPA's Radon Mitigation Standards

About the Second Edition

The first edition of this book was written in 1993, to assist what was thought to be an occasional do-it-yourselfer. In reality, the number of individuals wanting to reduce radon levels themselves was much higher than anticipated. In addition, the manual was being utilized to better understand the radon mitigation process prior to hiring a contractor, and to design systems installed into homes during construction.

The overwhelming success of the book led to several thousands being distributed to individuals and libraries. It also identified the need to address the process of hiring contractors and installing passive and active systems in new home construction. These are the two substantive changes in the second edition, which is now readily available.

How Well Does the Book Work?

The authors have received letters and telephone calls from hundreds of homeowners who have successfully used the book to install radon reduction systems. The authors have also inspected systems installed by users of the book and found them to be equal to, if not superior to, work done by contractors.

Because it is such a concise document, it has also been used as a training manual for housing authorities and weatherization agencies, as well as many do-it-yourself workshops sponsored by governmental agencies and large hardware retailers (such as Home Depot, Hugh M. Woods, Builder's Square, and ABC Plumbing and Electrical).

It truly works!

About the Authors

Douglas L. Kladder

Mr. Kladder is the Associate Director and the lead mitigation instructor at the Western Regional Radon Training Center, housed at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He has been intimately involved with the development and installation of radon mitigation systems since 1986.

Dr. James F. Burkhart

Dr. Burkhart is the Director at the Western Regional Radon Training Center at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and the lead radon measurement instructor. He is also a professor of physics at the University of Colorado.

Steven R. Jelinek

Mr. Jelinek, a former instructor at the Western Regional Radon Training Center and licensed building contractor, contributed his extensive experience in the installation of radon mitigation systems.

This book can be found in many libraries around the country. However, copies may be purchased directly from the authors, who are also available to answer technical questions.

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Protecting Your Home From Radon*

(Second Edition)



A Step-By-Step Manual For Radon Reduction
A simple and understandable manual for individuals wanting to reduce exposure to radon for themselves and their families.

Designed for do-it-yourselfers, or for individuals who would like to hire a qualified contractor and desire more information.

For distribution through libraries, health agencies, EPA Cooperative Partners, extension services and building repair centers.

Usable as a stand alone document, or as a training supplement for in-depth public education programs.

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