

How a Home Becomes Polluted by Tobacco

A New Home is Built

This house was just built and has never been smoked in. It's just waiting for the right family to move in.



Someone Smokes in the Home

The new owners allow smoking in or just outside the home. Tobacco smoke begins to stick to the walls, floors, and furniture.



Toxic Thirdhand Smoke Accumulates

Over time, tobacco smoke residue (also called thirdhand smoke) builds up in the home. Visitors notice a stale tobacco smell. It's difficult to remove and dangerous for humans and pets.



The Home Goes Back On the Market

Before putting their house on the market, the owners paint the walls and clean the carpets. This temporarily masks stains and odors but thirdhand smoke residue remains.



Bad News for the New Owners...

They don't smoke, but the tobacco smoke residue seeps back out of the walls. The stale odor returns, exposing the new owners to toxic tobacco smoke chemicals. Removing thirdhand smoke requires costly renovations.



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