

Instructions for Collecting Dust by AccuDust™

I. AccuDust™ Sampling Kit:

- ❖ One Dust Collector (a vacuum cassette, a top cap, a bottom cap, and a plastic filter insert).
- ❖ Ziploc™ bags for the dust collector.
- ❖ Pre-printed ID label.
- ❖ Sampling Instructions, Chain-of-Custody (COC) form, and sample analysis payment form.

II. Dust Sampling Equipment & Consumables (Not Provided):

- ❖ Vacuum Cleaner with a vacuum hose.
- ❖ Tape measure.
- ❖ Stop watch, timer, or a clock/watch.
- ❖ Masking tape (or any tape that could map out the sampling area).
- ❖ Clean disposable gloves.



III. Sampling Procedures using the Dust Collector:

Wear gloves through all the procedures. **(Combining basement or crawl space dust with upstairs living space samples are strongly discouraged.)**

1. Choose the areas to be tested from the Living Room (LR) and the Bedroom (BR).

(A) Go to the **Living Room (LR)**, locate the sofa or the most commonly used chair in the room. Measure and mark a **3-foot by 6-foot** rectangular sampling area on the wall-to-wall carpet immediately against the selected sofa / chair with the masking tape. If the sample location cannot accommodate a 3' x 6' dimension, then adjust the dimensions accordingly (but try to sample a total of 18 square feet).

(B) Go to the **Bedroom (BR)**, measure and mark a **3-foot by 6-foot** rectangular sampling area on the wall-to-wall carpet immediately against the bed with the masking tape. If the sample location cannot accommodate a 3' x 6' dimension, then adjust the dimensions accordingly (but try to sample a total of 18 square feet).

2. Remove the top and bottom caps from the dust collector and set aside. Connect the vacuum hose to the dust collector as shown in the figure. **Note:** It may fit loosely until the vacuum is turned on. You may wrap a piece of tape between dust collector and the vacuum hose to prevent the dust collector from accidentally falling off while in use.



3. Place the dust collector at one corner of the measured area in the **Living Room (LR)** and vacuum the sampling area (total of 18 square feet) for 5 minutes. You should be able to see the dust accumulated in the filter insert.
4. Next, move all the required equipment and supplies to the next room (if any). Hold the dust collector in an upright position when moving from the first room (**LR**) to the second room (**BR**). Again, place the dust collector at one corner of the measured area in the **Bedroom (BR)** and vacuum the sampling area (total of 18 square feet) for 5 minutes. Again, you should be able to see more dust accumulated inside the filter insert.
5. At the end of sample collection in **BR**, disconnect the dust collector from the vacuum cleaner hose by twisting or pulling. Place the small top cap on first and place the large bottom cap at the bottom of the dust collector. Double bag the capped dust collector with the small and medium Ziploc bags and make sure they are sealed properly.
6. Place the dust collector, the COC form and the payment form (include a check or credit card information) in the quart size Ziploc bag and send them back to Mycometrics.



IV. Sampling composite dust from a vacuum cleaner. To use this method, make sure the vacuum cleaner has only been used in the sampled residence and not other addresses.

[The price for an analysis of a vacuum bag sample is the same as the cost for one test.]

Note: It is always good practice to wear a protective dust mask when sampling composite dust from a vacuum cleaner, particularly if you are sensitive to mold or allergens.

- 1) Wear a glove, take a fistful of dust from the vacuum cleaner and put it in a Ziploc™ bag and double bag for protection. Label the bag with a marker.
- 2) Send the bagged sample, the COC form, and the payment form (include a check or credit card information) back to Mycometrics.

V. Other Sampling Methods – (When a vacuum is not feasible)

- ❖ If unable to use standard vacuum procedure, due to space/or other restrictions, please refer to instructions for collecting dust by **AccuCloth™**.