Home observations: a follow-up guide without a safety score

New original text from The Care Guide. This is an editorial guide, not a former company document or service offer.

An observation is not an inspection

A walk around a room can reveal a visible issue, but it cannot certify the condition of hidden wiring, structure or air. Use this guide to collect questions and organise follow-up. It is not a replacement for an inspection, local requirements or professional advice about a particular concern.

Record what you can actually see

Write the room, date and a plain description. For example: a wet area under the window after rain. Avoid guessing the cause. Include photographs where useful and note whether the condition is changing. Keep observations separate from explanations supplied later by a qualified person.

Give dampness its own follow-up

Health Canada explains that moisture causes must be addressed and mould can return if those causes remain. If you see persistent dampness or suspect mould, describe the extent and history and use the current guidance or seek appropriate assistance. Cleaning a surface alone is not proof the underlying issue has ended.

Keep instructions available

Record where the manuals for relevant household equipment are kept and who maintains the equipment. If a manual or service record is missing, make that a task. Do not invent maintenance intervals or attempt repair work from a checklist that was not written for the actual equipment.

Assign a next step

For every unresolved observation enter a person or organisation to contact, the question and a review date. A tenant can record the property contact; an owner can record the relevant qualified service. Use the local source appropriate to the concern rather than applying an old general quiz as a rule.

Close a note with evidence

Record what was checked, by whom, what action was completed and any follow-up still needed. Keep the service document or relevant instruction. An empty list, a completed checklist or a numerical total does not establish that a home is safe. This guide deliberately awards no score or certificate.

Source and edition note

Health Canada: addressing moisture and mould indoors
https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/healthy-living/addressing-moisture-mould-your-home.html

Current references checked 29 October 2026. Historical labels establish subject, not current validity. Read the applicable item and equipment instructions.