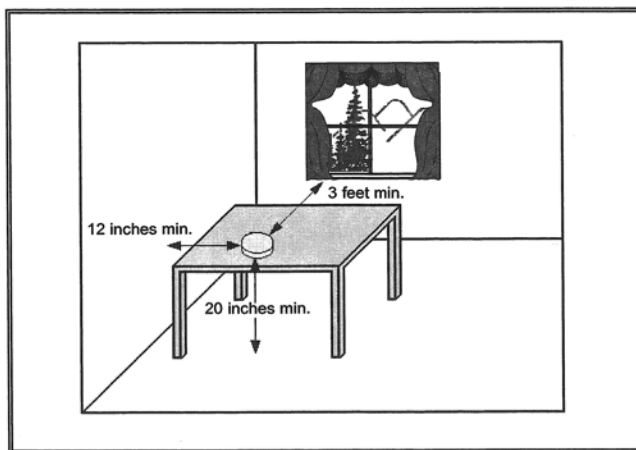


### Where is a Good Location for a Radon Test?

Since the purpose of the first short-term test is to be able to identify homes that are clearly below 4 pCi/L, it is necessary to place the test device in a part of the home that would be expected to have the highest radon level. If the reading comes back below 4 pCi/L, there is good reason to believe that the rest of the home also has a low radon level. Furthermore, if the closed house test protocols are followed, there is a good reason to believe that a low short-term test result (below 4 pCi/L) means the average radon throughout the year will probably not be above 4 pCi/L during normal use of the house (non-closed house conditions).

Therefore, in order to have confidence in the radon reading, the device should be placed in the lowest **occupied** space of the home. A finished basement is normally chosen in parts of the country that typically have basements. After the lowest occupied area of the home is selected, the device should be placed in a room in that area that is frequently occupied, but where high humidity in the air would not be expected. Examples of good locations would be bedrooms, dining rooms, and family rooms. Never place the device in a closet, crawl space, storage area, kitchen, garage or bathroom.



A proper location should be selected to obtain a good measurement of the radon in the home. A measurement should represent the breathing space of the home. The minimum distance for a test device is at least 20 inches from the floor, 4 inches from another object, 12 inches from a wall, and 3 feet from an outside window.

## 2. Check to see if the short-term test was performed correctly.

Before you even begin to think about fixing your house, use the checklist below to make sure you did the test right.

SHORT-TEST CHECK LIST		
QUESTIONS	YES	NO
Have you done a short-term test?		
If you did the test yourself - did you follow all the instructions?		
If someone else did the test - are they listed with your state radon program or a national certification program?		
Was the house closed for 12 hours before the test began (not necessary if the test itself was longer than 3 days)?		
Was the test device placed at least 20 inches above the floor?		
Was the test device kept out of drafts and temperature extremes?		
Was the device placed in the lowest lived-in area of the house?		
Were the closed-house conditions maintained for the duration of the test?		
Was the test device promptly read by the laboratory (within a few days of the end of the test)?		
<b>Was the result at or greater than 4 pCi/L?</b>		

If you can check "yes" to all of the above questions, then you now know that you do have a potential radon problem. If you do not feel confident that you can check "yes" to all of the above questions, then you should repeat the short-term test yourself or hire a professional tester to do it for you. The professional should be listed with your state radon program, or with one of the national radon certification programs.