

Suggestions to try when your car air-conditioner smells moldy



Taken from www.homemakingdivas.com website – How a woman fixes it

- The bad smell can often start by going through a drive-through car wash with your air conditioner on the setting "intake from the outside." This allows water to be splashed in through the vents around the windshield wiper area. Either turn your air off or put it on the setting "re-circulate" so no outside dirty water can get into the air conditioning system.
- Run your car air conditioner on regular setting most of the time, rather than on maximum. Constantly leaving it on maximum can leave odor-causing moisture inside the system. If you do use the max setting, change it to regular shortly before you turn the car off. This will give the air conditioning system a chance to dry out and prevent mildew from forming.
- Try Lysol spray to get rid of the odor. Open the windows of the car. Turn on the air conditioner, but turn off the recirculation so the air conditioner will bring in clean outside air. Spray Lysol directly into the vents around the windshield area on the outside of your car. Spray both the driver side and passenger side vents. Change to "re-circulate" air. The inside air flow is stronger and will flush the Lysol through the system. Let the air run for a little while. If you have a garage you can leave your car in over night, let the windows stay down so the Lysol will dissipate. If you live in a hot humid area you might want to repeat every couple of months throughout the summer.



- Put a new air filter into your car with the next oil change. Dirt, dust mites, stagnant water and other pollutants collect on the filter. Sometimes changing the filter can help to get rid of the odor.

- Purchase a spray that eliminates odors and purifies the air. It can be purchased at your local auto care center or hardware store. There are brands especially for cleaning the air conditioning and heating systems in vehicles. Spray directly into the exterior air intake vents and also the inside air conditioner vents to get rid of the odor. Doing this once a year may prevent odors from returning.

- If these suggestions don't take care of the problem try to find a Mold Remover with an enzyme solution in it.
 - Search on Google for a mold remover with an enzyme solution. Also type in your city and state to bring up companies that might sale the solution. You might ask a company that does disaster clean up if they will sale some of the solution to you. Tell them you want to clean the air conditioner in your car so they can teach you how to mix the solution.
 - Mix up the enzyme solution. Generally, this involves putting a prescribed amount of water and solution into a clean container. You must follow the directions that come with the enzyme solution, however, to ensure your mixture is effective. An enzyme solution literally eats the mold, but will not necessarily work if you do not mix it correctly. You want to mix the solution, per the brand's directions, in your spray bottle.
 - Spray at least 12 squirts into each of your car's air-conditioning vents. Wipe off the excess with your damp rag.
 - Allow the car to sit overnight. This allows the enzymes the time required to eat the mold. Do not run your car during this period.
 - The next day, turn your regular car fan to high power, so it can blow outside air through the vents. This dries the enzyme solution, and with it, the mold. The enzymes will have destroyed the mold. Once the vents are dry, mold no longer is a problem.