

Radon: Check the Test Record and Follow-Up

Todd Jerome Jenkins | v1.0 | Reviewed October 6, 2026 | Discussion + field checks

Why this matters

Radon cannot be checked by smell or by looking around a room. For a building concern, the useful evidence is a relevant test, appropriate interpretation and completed follow-up. A nearby building's result does not establish the result in ours.

Objective: Identify who owns the building's radon assessment and how results and follow-up are verified.

Key hazards or failure points

Assuming no odor means no exposure; missing room coverage; relying on a map; ignored mitigation faults; renovation or HVAC changes without review; improvised system adjustment.

Practical controls

- The facility owner or manager arranges appropriate assessment using a qualified provider and the applicable building-type protocol and state requirements. Workers report concerns through the designated route.
- Keep test results tied to the actual areas, dates and conditions. The responsible professional interprets findings and establishes any corrective action or restrictions; do not guess a pass/fail result.
- Maintain mitigation under its actual instructions and follow-up plan. Report building changes or system warnings. Do not switch off, adjust or enter restricted equipment merely to investigate a concern.

Verify It in the Field

Ask facilities to locate the relevant report and show which occupied areas it covers. Confirm the interpretation, open actions and responsible owner. A missing record is a gap requiring review, not proof that the air is safe or unsafe.

Where authorized and accessible, compare mitigation indicators with the system-specific instructions. Report an unclear or abnormal finding. A running fan or normal indicator does not itself measure the radon concentration.

Check the follow-up record: required action, owner, completion evidence and testing plan. Ask whether recent building or HVAC changes require reassessment. Record building information; keep individual health concerns private.

Stop and reassess

Pause changes that could compromise an assessed mitigation system until the responsible review occurs. Report faults, unassessed areas and unclear results. Follow professional restrictions and corrective plans. Do not close a concern using an unverified assurance or a visual check alone.

Ask the crew

1. Which assessment covers the area we occupy?
2. Who interprets the result and decides the response?
3. What building change should trigger follow-up?

Today's check: connect the area, report, owner and follow-up.

Sources: EPA Radon in Schools and Managing Radon in Schools.

Free next step: [JHA/JSA planning & field-verification worksheet](#)

Expanded guidance, references, supervisor check and attendance record accompany this talk.