

WHAT IS THAT SLIMY BLACK SUBSTANCE ON MY FAUCET?



The presence of a black jelly-like substance in moist areas of the kitchen or bathroom is likely a mixture of bacteria and/or fungi that are naturally found in air and water. Given the right growth conditions, they will colonize and produce a black slime.

WHERE YOU MIGHT FIND IT:

Constantly damp surfaces where the water stands for long periods of time serve as prime growth sites for black slime. It can commonly be found growing in the following locations:

- Kitchen and bath faucets (aerators)
- Washing machines
- Toilet tanks and bowls
- Shower heads
- Bathroom tiles
- Shower curtains or towels
- Drains
- Inside pipes
- Water heaters

Kitchens and bathrooms are the most common sites for black slime because these areas tend to have a warmer, more humid atmosphere. They also provide a source of organic nutrition, including shampoos, soaps, conditioners, hairspray, liquid dish detergent, and food particles.

CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS:

Once established, black slime usually cannot be eliminated entirely. To help reduce the growth, treat areas with a spray product that contains bleach or another disinfectant.

To clean your bathtub faucet:

- Scrub the inside with a toothbrush
- Spray the inside of the faucet with a disinfectant that contains bleach

To clean sink faucet and aerator:

- Remove the aerator and soak it in a bleach solution
- Use a toothbrush to scrub and loosen any black slime on the aerator screen and faucet opening.

Questions? 252-329-2265