Severe Domestic Squalor Assessment Scale

A. Is there reduced accessibility due to clutter?

Note: a reduction in floor space due to excrement is not to be considered in this section

1. Somewhat impaired access

but I can get into all rooms

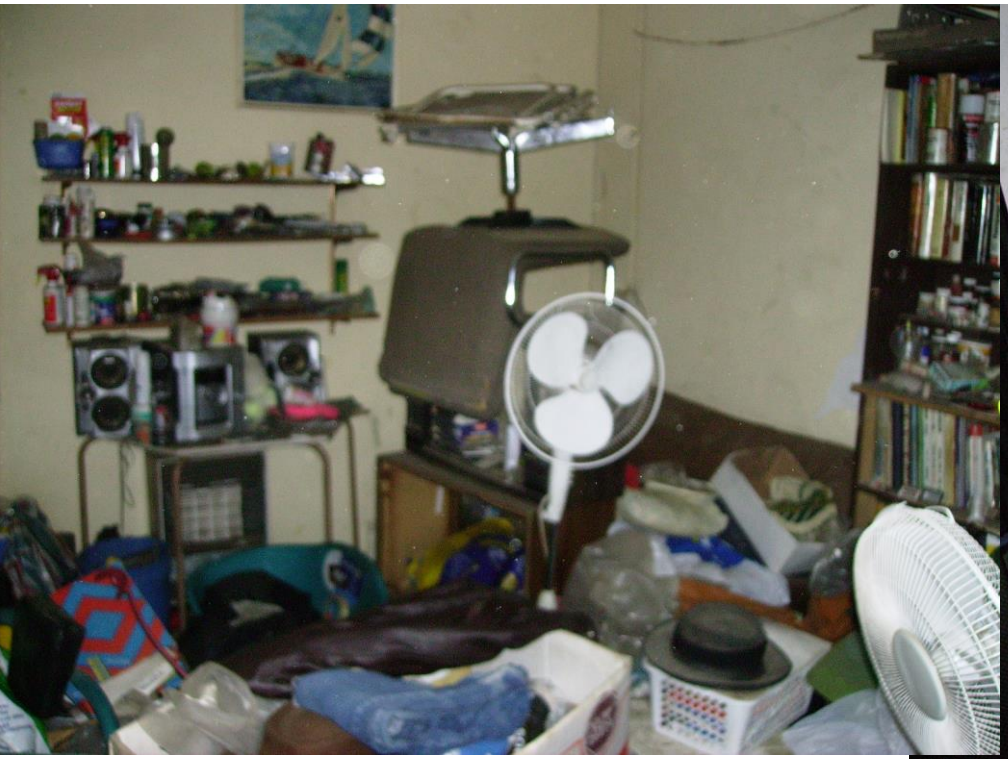
30—59% of ground space inaccessible



2. Moderately impaired access

It is difficult or impossible to get into one or two rooms or areas

60-89% of ground space is inaccessible





3. Severely impaired access

Access to the front door is heavily/fully obstructed and/or I am unable to reach most or all areas inside and/or outside of the dwelling

90-100% of the ground space is inaccessible





B. Is there an accumulation of items that have little obvious value?

In general, is there an accumulation of items that most people would consider to be useless or should be thrown away?

1. Some accumulation

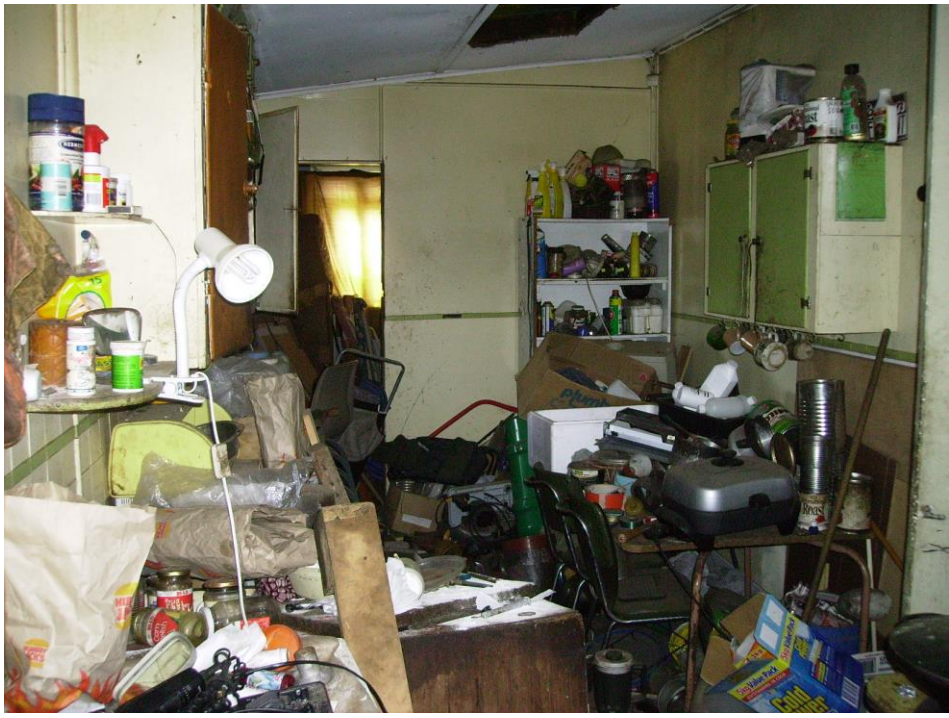
but collected items are organised in some way and do not impede movement, prevent cleaning, or access to furniture and appliances



2. Moderate accumulation

Items cover the furniture in most areas and have accumulated throughout the dwelling making it very difficult to keep clean





3. Excessive accumulation

Items are piled at least waist high in all or most areas inside and/or outside the dwelling





C. Is there an accumulation of waste or recyclables?

In general, is there evidence of excessive accumulation of food waste, packaging, plastic wrapping, discarded containers or other unwanted materials?

1. A little

There is a scattering of waste and recyclables throughout the property



2. Moderate

Waste and recyclable are piling up throughout the property. There is a substantial accumulation of waste that should be discarded.



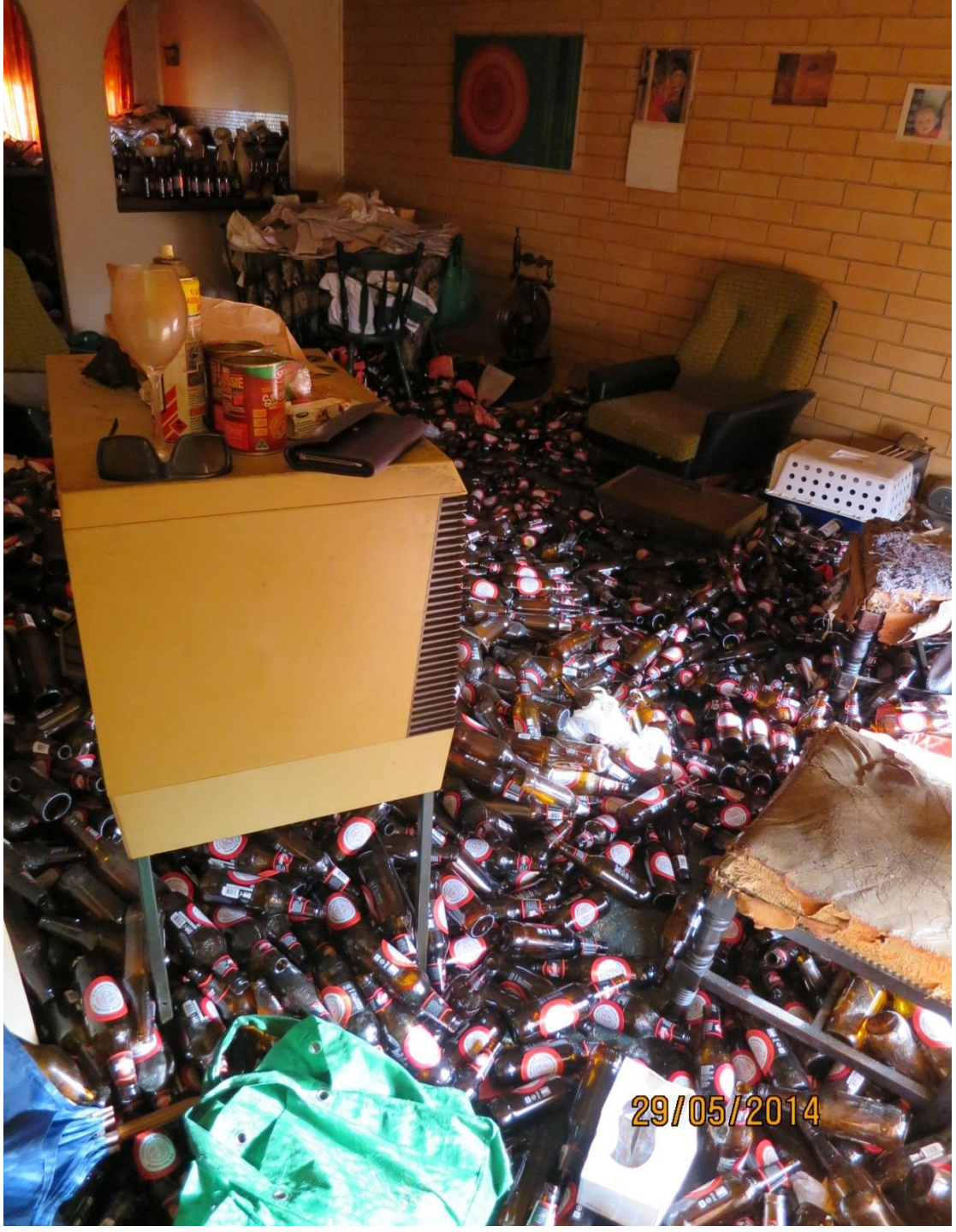


3. Excessive

Waste and recyclables are piled knee high inside and/or outside the dwelling.
Clearly no recent attempt to remove waste or recyclables.






29/05/2014

D. Are the floors and carpets (excluding the bathroom) clean?

1. Mildly dirty

The floors and carpets look as if they haven't been cleaned or swept for weeks. There may be scattered rubbish.



2. Very dirty

The floors and carpets are very dirty and look as if they haven't been cleaned for months. There may be mould growth. *Rate 1 if only one room is affected.*



3. Exceedingly dirty

There is rubbish or dirt throughout the dwelling. *Excrement usually merits a score of 3.*






25 06 2014

E. Are the walls, visible furniture & other surfaces clean?

1. Mildly dirty

There are mildly dusty or dirty surfaces.



2. Very dirty

The walls, furniture and/or surfaces are heavily soiled with grime or dirt. Signs of neglect indicated by lots of cobwebs and/or greasy, messy, mouldy or wet furniture.



3. Exceedingly dirty

The walls, furniture and surfaces are filthy (e.g. covered with faeces and urine) and the assessor does not want to tough them.



F. Is the bathroom clean?

Include the floor, walls, basin, shower, bath and toilet.

1. Mildly dirty

The bathroom has not been cleaned for weeks and there is a build-up of mould, mildew, hair and/or grime. The toilet may be unflushed.



2. Moderately dirty

The bathroom has not been cleaned for months and there is an excessive build-up of mould, mildew, hair and/or grime. Faeces and/or urine are on the outside of the toilet bowl or localised to a small part of the bathroom.



3. Very dirty

There are piles of rubbish and/or excrement throughout the bathroom. The toilet may be blocked and bowl full of excreta. The condition of the bathroom impedes/prohibits normal use of fixtures.





G. Is the kitchen clean and is the food safe to consume?

1. Somewhat dirty and unhygienic

The cook top and sink are untidy. Surfaces are dirty and there may be some spilt food. Refuse is mainly in the garbage bin. Food that could go off has been left uncovered and out of the fridge.



2. Moderately dirty and unhygienic

The oven, sink, surfaces and floors are dirty with piles of unwashed crockery and utensils. Refuse/garbage is on the floor and surfaces. There is some rotten or mouldy food. The fridge is unclean. The walls, floor and ceiling may have mould growth.

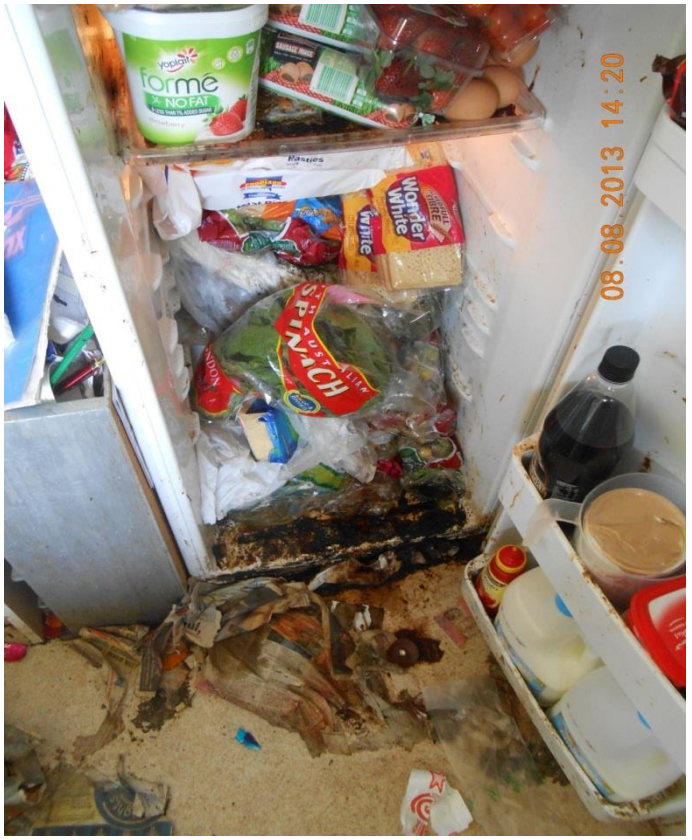




3. Very dirty and unhygienic

The sink, cook top and the inside of all the cupboards are filthy. Much of the food is rotten, putrid, covered with mould an unsafe to eat. A lot of garbage and refuse is over the surfaces and floor. *Rate 3 if maggots are seen.*






Palmolive



I. Is there evidence of a vermin infestation?

For example rats, mice and cockroaches.

1. Minor

There is evidence of current vermin activity (e.g. a few droppings) by it is confined to one area of the property and control measures are in place.





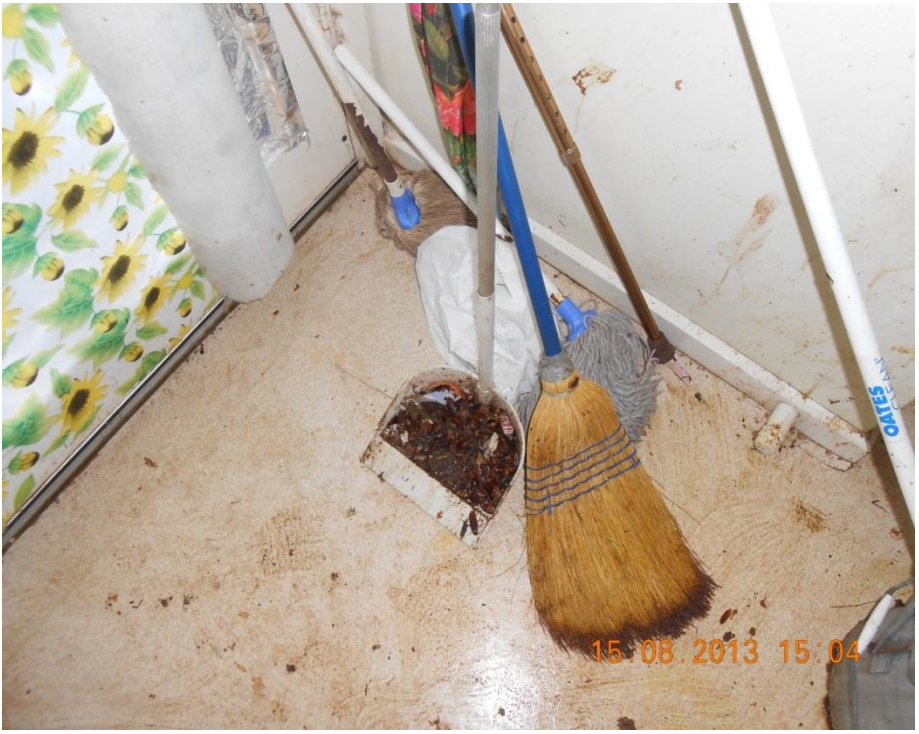
2. Moderate

There is an accumulation of droppings in multiple areas of the property and/or the assessor has physically seen living vermin. Control measures are absent or ineffective.



3. Extreme

An active heavy infestation that is potentially impacting on neighbouring properties. Indicated by visually observing many live vermin, rub marks, runs, gnawed surfaces and/or active burrows.





J. Are the sleeping areas clean and hygienic?

1. Mildly unclean

The sheets and/or mattress are mildly stained or dirty indicating they have not been washed for weeks.



2. Moderately dirty

The bed sheets are unclean and stained (e.g. with faeces or urine). Clothes and/or rubbish are over the surrounding floor area.



3. Very dirty

The mattress or sleeping surface is unclean, damaged or non-existent. There are no bed sheets or linen present or they are extremely dirty. The surrounding area is filthy.

