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How do you get rid of the odor in a vacated unit where tenants have smoked many years? Our inquirer has tried everything from several coats of odor-removing paint to ammonia, with no luck.

Deodorant spray and plug ins

Kiltz, Replacing Appliances, Essential Oil in Paint, Commercial Odor Eliminators, Clean out Air Ducts. As long as air is off it will smell worse than if someone is living there.

They make a product called Smoke Out. They can try that. They may need to have the HVAC system cleaned.

We use odor-removing paint and let air out first

You need an ozone machine or hire some-one to get rid of smell.

They have a machine you can rent to clean the HVAC system out

Don't forget if the unit has carpet, that smell is embedded in the fiber of the carpet as well.

We use a service that gets smoke out of houses after fires.

We bleach our walls and scrub them with a scrub brush. Sometimes depending on how long and how much they had smoked in the unit they have to be bleached several

times. Then of course leave the windows open to air out. Then we paint all the walls with kilzs paint. Normally one coat of kilzs paint is enough. Then we paint our normal color. Most of the time this normally work pretty well. There has been a few that there was still a small odor, but after a little it went away.

Ozone machine for smoke smell.

Having the air ducts cleaned may help with the odor

We just did one that we kilz 2x ceiling and walls then painted two coats; however, we were going to replace the cabinets anyway so they are torn out which also helped!

If you have VCT tile, a lot of time the odor is in the floor tiles. Could also be the refrigerator coils that have absorbed the odor. Strip and clean the floors & coils if you have already done the walls. We wash the walls with degreaser before painting, and sometimes use Kilz before painting and after washing.

Try odoban disinfectant. You can dilute with water or spray directly into air full strength. One of our residents used to work in a local motel and used this product to freshen the air in the rooms. We buy from HD Supply in gallon size container.

We had a burned unit. Adding vanilla flavor to the paint killed the smell.

My maintenance man has had luck with bleaching the floors (we have linoleum floors). As far as walls has had to put several coats of paint also.

May need to have the Duct work and A/C coils cleaned or replaced. We also use Kilz primer/sealer on the walls and ceiling. We have recently purchased an O-Zone machine. It helps too.

We have found that the only way to really get the smell completely gone is to have the air ducts and a/c systems cleaned out. If they were heavy smokers then the air ducts are full of the smoke damage worse than the walls.

See attached they need to locate where the smell is either in the carpet or in the duct area.. Call Gene

We bought an Ozonator. It works very well, but sometimes it takes several treatments.

We take everything out-carpet/pad-clean & seal the sub-flooring before carpet or tile goes back in; had to replace the entire hvac system & clean the ductwork; replace all outlets & covers, appliances-ceiling fans-lite fixtures, etc; clean all walls manually, windows, tracks, used zinzer on walls before paint with primer & then with paint; & then still had to use an ozone machine to remove odors. All very expensive processes. We had 2 units that still had the nicotine "bleed" thru 2 turns later. We have only recouped 1 bad debt on a smoker's unit-rest have been lost funds. Good luck!

Make sure you clean the air return crawl space / vent area as well as everything else.(ceilings, closets...)

We've stripped all the drywall, flooring and ammonia and paint to cabinets. We had one that was so bad we had to change out all appliances as well as the heating unit to get the odor out. Even the heating unit had yellowish brown gunk on it. The problem may be in the duct work.

We wash our walls down with a combo of Dynamite and QD-64 (East Texas Supply) and finish off with Mr. Clean with Febreze.

We have always used Kilz and that works pretty well. But we have two units now that residents smoked for many, many years and we are considering servpro to come in and clean the inside the vents as well as all the walls, doors, everything. It is kind of pricy but may be our only option on these two units because the damage was for so long.