

Managing damp and condensation

How can I stop my home feeling damp?

There's always some moisture in the air, even if you can't see it.

If the air gets colder, it can't hold all the moisture and tiny drops of water appear. This is condensation and the most likely cause of damp.

However, it would be useful to check the following and report if faults are found.

- Leaking pipes, wastes, gutters and/or overflows.
- Rain coming through gaps in the brickwork, roof, window frames and around doors.

Follow the tips overleaf to help prevent and tackle condensation...



How can I manage condensation?

During the winter months you may find you have more condensation in your home. This is found mainly on windows and can lead to patches of black mould forming.

The two main causes of condensation are a lack of heating and poor ventilation.

Unfortunately we are unable to get rid of condensation for you. However, if you follow these tips, it will help you keep your home condensation and mould-free.

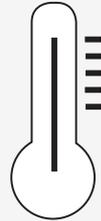
Remove damp to prevent mould



If there is a build up of condensation or water on your windows or window sills, **regularly wipe down** the affected surfaces to prevent the build-up of mould.

Black mould can be easily removed with a cleaner available from most supermarket or hardware stores.

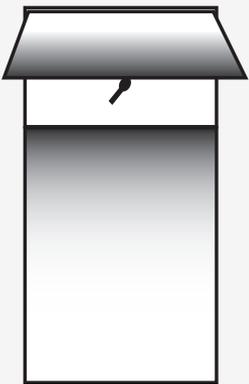
Keep your home warm



18-21°C

In cold weather, keep the heating on low as much as possible, even if you are not home. This will also help prevent pipes freezing.

Open Windows

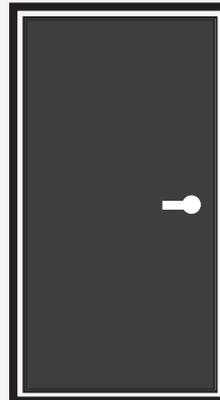


Keep a small window slightly open to ventilate the room when you are in it.

Open kitchen and bathroom windows when cooking and showering to let steam out and use an extractor fan if you have one.

Don't draught-proof bathrooms or kitchens.

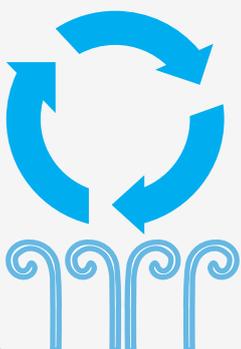
Close Doors



Close kitchen and bathroom doors when the rooms are in use, even if you have an extractor fan, to stop moisture reaching other rooms.

When boiling or steaming food, keep the pan lids on to stop the steam escaping.

Let air circulate



Keep furniture away from radiators to avoid blocking out the heat.

Don't put too many things in wardrobes and cupboards.

If you have to dry clothes in the house, use a clothes airer, not the radiators. Keep the clothes in a room with the

door shut and the window slightly open (if it is safe to do so).

Vent **tumble dryers** through an outside wall or window.

Never block ventilators or chimneys, they may be needed to provide ventilation to your gas appliances.