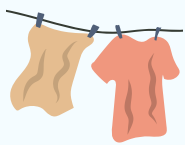


What is condensation?

Some damp is caused by condensation. This can lead to a growth in the mould that appears as a cloud of little black dots. Condensation occurs when moist air comes into contact with a colder surface like a wall, mirror etc. The air can't hold the moisture and tiny drops of water appear. It also occurs in places where the air is still, like the corners of rooms or behind wardrobes and other furniture.

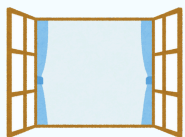
How to reduce condensation at home

Produce less moisture



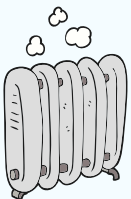
Cover pans while you're cooking, and dry clothes outdoors where possible. If you need to dry clothes indoors, create some ventilation by opening a window.

Let fresh air in



Open your windows to let air circulate around your home. It's especially important to do this during blue sky weather. Move your furniture away from radiators and external walls and keep trickle vents in window frames open.

Heat your home a little more



Keep your heating on at a lower temperature for longer periods of time. A heated home helps prevent condensation from forming on surfaces.

Stop moisture spreading



Use an extractor fan when you are cooking or in the shower/bath, and keep your kitchen and bathroom doors closed. Wipe condensation from windows each morning to prevent mould.



What are trickle vents?

Trickle vents are background ventilators that are fitted in window and door frames to let in a 'trickle-feed' of ventilation from outdoors.

Trickle vents are designed to:

- Reduce condensation by removing excess moisture from the air that can cause mould
- Regulate the temperature and humidity in your home to make the indoor climate more comfortable
- Improve air quality by removing stale air and odours
- Provide background ventilation even when windows are closed



The difference between damp and condensation

There are some key differences between damp and condensation to be aware of.



Condensation is normally found on cold surfaces such as walls, windows/window sills or mirrors, and is more prominent in the colder months. The most common signs of condensation is water collecting on windows, or black mould which can appear on any walls of the property.



Damp occurs when a fault in the building's basic structure lets water in from the outside, and can penetrate walls, floors, and ceilings. You may see damp patches or tide marks on the walls, or peeling paint or wallpaper.

If you believe you are experiencing damp issues, particularly as a result of a defect in the building, please call **0117 914 4257** and we will attend to carry out a thorough damp and mould inspection.



Penetrating damp

'Penetrating damp' can be caused by moisture coming into the house through leaking or cracked pipework, a damaged roof, blocked guttering, gaps around window frames and cracked or defective rendering and brickwork. All these problems can be remedied.

Rising damp

'Rising damp' is due to a defective (or non-existent) damp course. This will leave a 'tidemark' about a metre above the floor.

Let's work together to make sure your home is free from damp, mould and condensation.