

Condensation, damp and mould

Condensation is the most common cause of damp and can turn to black mould if left untreated.

A small amount of condensation is not usually a problem. Excess condensation can cause black mould which can affect your home and your health. All homes are at risk of condensation, particularly during the winter months.

Here are some tips to follow to help prevent excess condensation:

- heat your home as best you can; this can help to reduce condensation and help to dry out any small damp patches
- air your home by opening windows and using trickle vents (keep these clean and clear), and keep curtains open during the day
- use extractor fans, especially in the kitchen and bathroom / shower room, and keep baths or showers short to prevent steam turning to condensation. Wipe away condensation after a bath / shower on tiles, mirrors, windows etc
- treat minor mould growth with approved products, following the manufacturer's instructions
- try not to dry clothes on radiators and try to avoid overfilling wardrobes – air needs to circulate
- Use a lid on pots and pans as much as possible – and wipe away any condensation that forms
- Try not to overfill rooms or keep too many things against walls – air needs to circulate around rooms to avoid cold patches or condensation.