

# Managing / Preventing Condensation – Mould & Damp

## What is condensation?



- Condensation is when moisture or water in the air collects on a cooler surface.
- There is always some moisture in the air, and most of the time you cannot see it.
- Most people have a little bit of condensation, like the droplets you see on your windows.

- Condensation occurs mainly during cold weather, whether it is raining or dry.
- The more moisture you produce in your home, the greater your chances of getting condensation and mould – unless you have adequate ventilation.

• Damp and mould in the home can be a health hazard, causing respiratory problems and allergies.

• Mould can be bad for your health, so it's important you take action if you spot signs of mould in your home.

• Preventing damp and mould is much easier than you might think.

• Mould looks like little black dots in the corners of the windows or anywhere water collects, can grow on walls, ceilings, furnishings and even on clothes and toys.

• Condensation is not the only cause of damp. It can also arise from:

- Rain coming through a roof where a tile or slate is damaged or missing
- Leaking pipes.
- Rising damp due to a defective or bridged damp course, or where there is no damp course.

Condensation can lead to damp and mould

# Preventing condensation and mould



Make sure you always have your extractor fans on when you're in the shower or bath, or when you're cooking. They should continue to run after you leave the room.

## Allow Air to Circulate

- Pull furniture away from cold walls for airflow
- Clean clutter from windowsills, wipe water, cleaning the condensation from windows and frames to avoid mould.



If you have a vented dryer, ensure it is vented outside via duct or a window when in use.

You will get much less condensation if you keep all rooms in your home warm most of the time.

- Open windows when you can to let fresh air in and moist air out - especially in the morning, to make sure your property is well-ventilated.
- Dry your clothes outside, if you can - if you are drying them in the bathroom or kitchen, keep the extractor on, a window open and the doors closed.

- Make sure your furniture is away from radiators and external walls as this stops air moving around your home.
- Keep lids on your pans when you're cooking to stop steam escaping. If you do get mould, use a mould cleaning product to remove it.