

A background image showing water droplets of various sizes on a textured surface, with some droplets forming larger puddles at the bottom, illustrating the concept of condensation.

Is your property damp?

It may be condensation








What is condensation?

Condensation occurs mainly during the cold weather and when there is a high level of moisture in the air. This will appear as water droplets on cold surfaces, for example, in the corners of rooms, windows, etc.

Moisture is caused by regular activities carried out within the home, such as:

- cooking;
- washing;
- drying clothes;
- poor ventilation;
- inadequate heating;
- breathing.

Did you know we produce several pints of water a day?

Two people at home for 16 hours a day create	
A bath or shower produces	
Drying clothes indoors produces around	
Cooking and using a kettle creates	
Washing dishes produces	
Bottled gas heaters, used for around eight hours produces	
This all adds up to around	

What can you do about it?

Severe condensation can lead to mould growth in your property. You can reduce the moisture in the air by:



Ventilating – Make sure extractor fans in kitchens and bathrooms are used, open trickle vents and windows all year round.

Dry clothes outside

where possible, or in a ventilated area.



Put lids on saucepans

and where possible close the kitchen door when cooking.

Wipe down surfaces

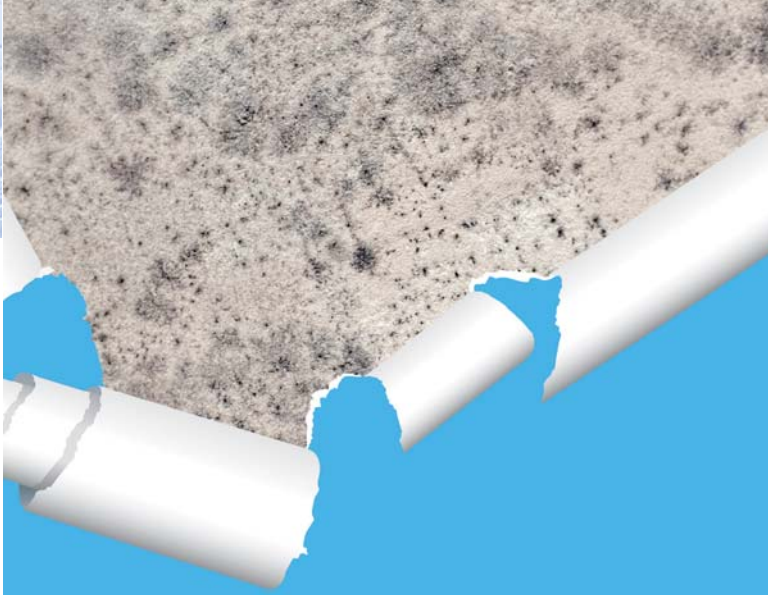
where moisture settles, such as windows and work surfaces.



Don't block air vents

Keep your home warm





Are you still suffering from **damp & mould?**

Condensation is not the only cause of damp.

Penetrating damp

- Leaking pipes, wastes or overflows.
- Rain seeping through the roof where tiles or slates are missing.
- Blocked gutters.



Rising damp

- A defective, or lack of a, damp-proof course.
- A tide mark of no more than a metre high on walls.

If rising or penetrating damp is the cause of the problem, tenants must contact the landlord to inform them. Alternatively owner-occupiers should contact a qualified Building Surveyor or Chichester District Council for further advice.



How to combat **mould growth**

First treat the mould already in your home, and then deal with the basic problem of condensation to stop mould reappearing.

To kill and remove mould, thoroughly wipe down or spray areas with a fungicidal wash that carries a Health and Safety Executive (HSE) 'approval number'. It is essential that all the mould spores are removed in order to prevent the problem reoccurring.

Make sure you follow the manufacturer's instructions on the product. Fungicidal washes are usually available at supermarkets. Dry-clean mildewed clothes and shampoo carpets. Do not try to remove mould by using a brush or a vacuum cleaner.

After treatment, redecorate using good quality fungicidal paint or a fungicidal resistant wallpaper paste to help prevent mould from recurring. The effect of fungicidal paint is destroyed if covered with ordinary paint or wallpaper paste.

Remember: to eliminate dampness you must properly heat and ventilate your property.



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