

## 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.**

Chichester District Council  
[www.chichester.gov.uk](http://www.chichester.gov.uk)



### Housing Standards

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November 2021

# 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	
<b>This all adds up to around</b>	

# 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, keep trickle vents on windows open all year round, and open windows for short bursts throughout the day to help to remove any moisture.

**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.

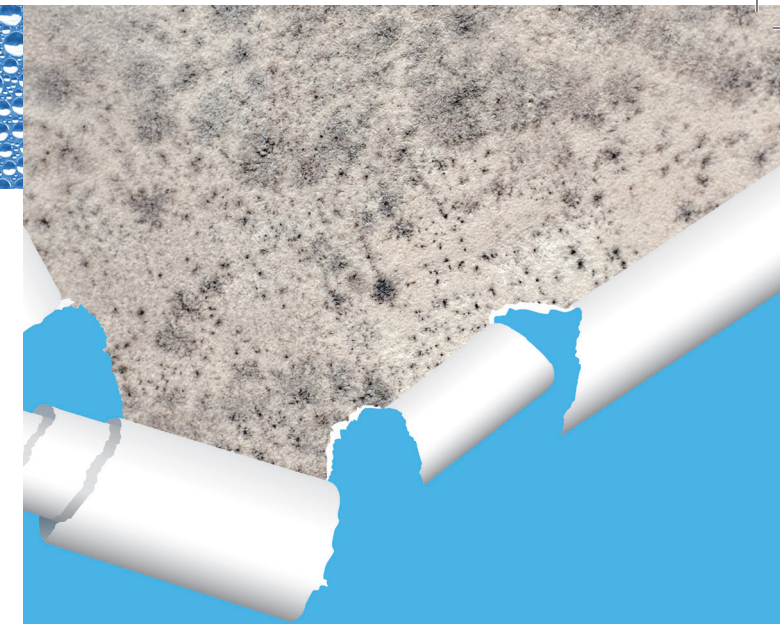




**Don't block air vents**  
Clear any clutter to allow air to circulate, this is vital for controlling mould growth.

**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.