

Condensation, damp and mould



Condensation, damp and mould

Condensation commonly appears on windows in living rooms, bathrooms, kitchens and bedrooms, and happens in many households when the temperature drops inside the house, especially at night when the heating is turned off. These droplets of moisture are formed when warm air inside our homes, hits a cold surface such as a wall or window, where it will then appear as condensation.

Some damp is caused by condensation which can lead to problems in your home, including black mould which can damage possessions and even affect your health.

Preventing condensation, damp and mould...

in the bathroom

During and after your bath or shower, keep your bathroom door shut and the window open. This will allow air to get into the room to dry excess moisture, whilst preventing cold air from travelling through your home. Where possible, always use an extractor fan.





while drying clothes

When the weather allows, dry your clothes outside. If that isn't possible, try to refrain from drying clothes on radiators as this will create water vapour. Instead, place them in a cool room on a clothes rack and keep the door closed. Ensure any tumble driers are also properly ventilated to the outside.

in the kitchen


When washing clothes or cooking, keep the kitchen door shut and open a window. Use an extractor fan where fitted and keep the lids on pans when cooking.

by heating your home

Try to keep your home at a consistent temperature (at least 15 degrees in cold weather). We understand it can get costly to heat your home through winter, so take care to close windows at night and exclude any draughts. Avoid using paraffin heaters or flueless bottled gas heaters as these produce a lot of moisture.

by ensuring airflow

Ensure that you do not block or cover air bricks, flues or air vents. Not only does this increase the likelihood of condensation, this could also be dangerous. Always ensure that furniture is not blocking air vents, and leave a gap between your furniture and walls.



How to get rid of mould

If you have patches of black mould in your home, it means that you already have condensation or damp in your property and these affected areas will need to be properly treated.

You will need:

- gloves
- eye protection
- a mask
- a hard bristled brush
- a soft cloth
- mould cleaning product





Step 1:

Open windows and keep doors closed so the mould spores don't spread to other rooms.

Step 2:

Ensure you're wearing gloves, eye protection and a mask to clean any mould.

Step 3:

Spray the affected area and scrub with a hard bristled brush.

Step 4:


Rinse thoroughly and dry the area with a soft cloth then throw away the soft cloth.

Step 5:

Vacuum to get rid of any remaining fallen spores.

Step 6:

Follow the advice under 'preventing condensation, damp and mould...' to prevent mould returning.



Other causes of damp



Penetrating damp

Penetrating damp can occur in properties of any age and at any level. It's the result of water coming through an external wall, window or roof. This can happen due to water entering a defect in the building, or when external brick and stone walls have degraded and become porous. The most common causes of penetrating damp include: defective rendering, blocked gutters, leaking pipes, gaps around window frames and roof leaks.

Rising damp

This is caused by a defective damp course. This type of damp will leave a 'tide mark' about a metre above the floor.



**If you suspect you have
penetrating or rising damp,
contact us to book a repair
appointment:**

T: 01225 715 715

E: info@selwoodhousing.com

W: selwoodhousing.com/repairs

