

Condensation and Mould Advice for Tenants



Particularly during the winter months, you may notice issues with condensation and mould in your rented property. This is usually because during this colder time, we start to feel the cold more and spend more time inside our homes, resulting in greater humidity and a build-up of moisture. Condensation can quickly turn into damp and mould if not swiftly dealt with.

What are the signs of condensation, damp and mould?

If your property is suffering from condensation and damp, you may notice the following indicators:

- Wallpaper starts to peel
- Damp patches appear on walls
- A build-up of moisture on your windows
- Musty, damp smell
- Water runs down walls and windows
- Mould growth, most commonly on exterior walls
- Staining on walls

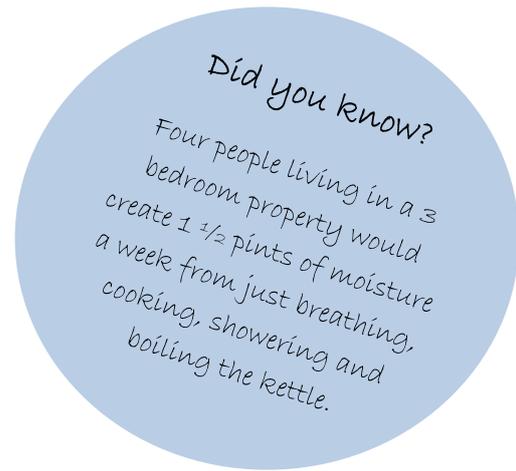
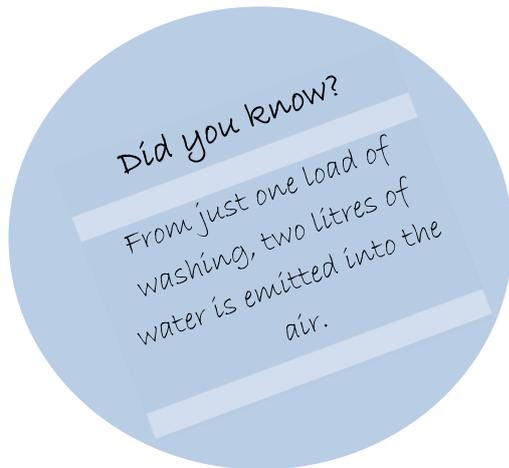


What can I do to prevent condensation, damp and mould?

There are several preventative measures you can take to help inhibit any condensation issues from appearing within your home:

- Ensure that any washing machines or tumble dryers are correctly vented.
- If possible, dry clothes outdoors to prevent excess moisture escaping into your property. If this is not possible, open doors or windows.
- When taking a shower or cooking, ensure that your kitchen or bathroom doors are closed to avoid excess moisture from escaping into other rooms.
- Cover your pans when cooking to avoid the steam from escaping where possible.
- Use an extractor fan, if you have one, when cooking or showering. Alternatively, open a window for at least 15-20 minutes.
- Cover fish tanks and move houseplants outdoors if necessary, as both pets and plants produce moisture.
- Wipe down and dry surfaces after you are finished using them in the kitchen or bathroom, as excess moisture can quickly turn to mould.
- Do not overfill wardrobes or cupboards- overfilled spaces such as these are breeding grounds for mould as the air cannot easily circulate.

- Keep furniture at least 50mm away from surrounding walls so that air can easily move around your property. Similarly, put wardrobes against internal walls, rather than external, if possible.
- Ensure that the property is adequately heated.
- Open the windows slightly in any rooms you regularly use.



What can I do if the problem is more severe?

If the problem is more severe, you should contact us at Home Estate Agents as soon as possible so that we can notify the landlord and consider any longer-term action that may be required. Call the office on 01925 405400 or email lettings@home-estateagents.co.uk

What can I do to tackle condensation, damp and mould?

If your home has condensation-related issues, it is imperative to get these sorted as soon as you notice the signs. Here are some ways you can tackle the problem in the first instance:

- Wipe down affected walls and window frames with a fungicidal wash.
- Dry clean or machine wash mildewed clothes shampoo mouldy carpets.
- Redecorate using fungicidal paint or if wallpapering use a fungicidal resistant paste

