

Some Dos and Don'ts

- ❌ Don't block permanent ventilators or chimneys.
- ❌ Don't draught proof windows in the bathroom or kitchen or in rooms where there is condensation or mould growth, or where there is a gas cooker or a fuel-burning heater like a gas fire.
- ❌ Don't put furniture against cold external walls.
- ❌ Don't disturb mould by brushing or vacuum cleaning.
- ✅ Do treat mould already in your home and reduce condensation to restrict new mould growth.
- ✅ Do wipe off mould growth immediately with clean water.
- ✅ Do wipe down affected areas with a fungicidal wash. An Anti Mould Kit is available free to Council tenants. Always follow the instructions carefully. Do not use bleach.
- ✅ Do dry-clean clothes affected by mildew and shampoo carpets.
- ✅ Do redecorate after treatment using a good quality fungicidal paint to help prevent mould recurring. This paint is not effective if overlaid with ordinary paints or wallpaper.

If you think you have a problem with damp in your home, please contact the Council's Housing Team on **01727 819256**. Your Repairs Handbook tells you what we need to know so we can help with this type of problem.



The District Council Offices' text phone number is **01727 819570**. This service is for people with a hearing impairment.

If you require this information in another format, e.g., in large print, Braille, audio or in a language other than English, please contact: **01727 819209**.

Dealing with Condensation & Mould

A guide for council tenants and leaseholders



This leaflet explains how condensation causing mould growth forms and how you can keep it to a minimum.

What is condensation?

Condensation starts as moisture in the air, usually produced by cooking, washing, or drying clothes on radiators.

Warm moist air rises and can form mould on ceilings and in upstairs rooms.



Why is it a problem?

Left untreated, condensation can result in mould growth on walls and ceilings, furnishings, and clothing.

It can affect wall plaster and cause woodwork to rot. It can also increase the risk of respiratory illness.



Reducing condensation in your home

Control excess moisture

- ✓ Close kitchen and bathroom doors to prevent steam escaping. When cooking or washing, open a window or use an extractor fan for 20 minutes to allow steam to escape.
- ✓ Open windows in other rooms each day and open trickle vents in your window frames.
- ✓ Wipe down surfaces when moisture settles to prevent mould forming.
- ✓ Do not block air vents and allow air to circulate around furniture and cupboards.
- ✓ Never use bottled gas or paraffin heaters which produce lots of moisture and can be dangerous (your tenancy agreement or lease prohibits their use).



Produce less moisture

- ✓ Cover pans when cooking.
- ✓ Dry clothes outdoors when possible or use small ventilated rooms.
- ✓ Cover fish tanks and remember that house pets and plants produce moisture as well.
- ✓ Ensure your washing machine or tumble drier is vented in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.
- ✓ Maintain a low background heat when the weather is wet or cold.

