WILLIAMSBURGH
HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD

A Guide to Controlling Condensation and Mould in Your Home

There is always some level of moisture present in the air, even if it's not visible. **Condensation** occurs when this moisture gathers on a **cooler surface.** While most homes experience some degree of condensation, **excessive moisture can lead to the growth of mould**, especially if moisture remains on surfaces for extended periods.

Causes of Condensation

There are four main factors that cause condensation:

- **Too much moisture produced in the home**
- **Lack of airflow and ventilation**
- **Insufficient temperature control**
- **Cold surfaces**

How much additional moisture might you be adding to the air in your home each day?

Drying Clothes indoors

Cooking and using a kettle

Two people at home breathing

Taking a bath or shower

Washing dishes

That amounts to a whopping 22 pints of additional moisture in the air!

Understanding Condensation and Its Effects

Condensation can manifest on or around **windows**, as well as on mirrors after a bath or shower, and on **cold surfaces** like tiles or chilly walls. It often collects in **corners or behind wardrobes and cupboards.** This phenomenon occurs on cold surfaces and in areas **where air circulation is minimal.**

Excessive condensation can result in dampness, which may lead to:

- **Mould growth on walls and furniture**
- **Mildew on clothing and other fabrics**
- **Decay of wooden window frames**

Managing Condensation and Mould

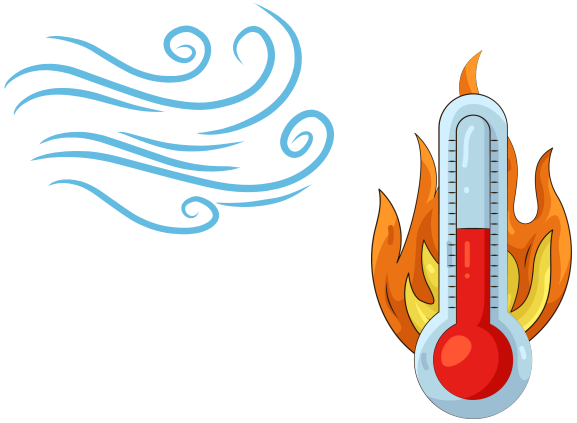
There are several straightforward actions that everyone can take to control condensation and mold in their homes:

Tips for Reducing Moisture In Your Home

- **Dry your laundry outside** whenever possible or hang it in a sunny room with the door closed and a window slightly ajar. Avoid placing it on radiators with the windows shut.
- **Wipe down windows and windowsills** with a sponge each morning if moisture is present, along with any wet surfaces in the kitchen or bathroom.
- **Always cook with lids on your pans** and only boil the amount of water you need in the kettle. This not only prevents steam from escaping but also conserves energy.
- **Ensure your extractor fans are on** while showering, bathing, or cooking. If you lack extractor fans, try to keep windows slightly open during these activities and close doors to other rooms.
- **When filling your bath, run cold water first**, followed by hot. This simple step can reduce steam by up to 90%, minimizing condensation.
- **Use a dehumidifier** if available to help decrease moisture levels in your home.

Tips for Improving Indoor Air Quality

1. **Open windows whenever possible** to invite fresh air in and allow moist air to escape — particularly in the morning, even if just for ten minutes.
2. **Avoid placing furniture, including beds, against outside walls**. Instead, leave a gap between the wall and your furniture to promote better air circulation.



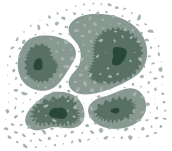
Tips for Efficient Heating

- Set your heating to operate for a **longer duration at a lower temperature** instead of using short, intense bursts. Aim to maintain a consistent temperature of **18°-21**° across all rooms in your home.
- **Insulation and draught-proofing** are also effective ways to keep your entire house warmer while reducing fuel costs. If possible, **install thick carpets** with quality thermal underlay and hang **heavy, lined curtains** in your rooms.

Tips for combating mould

To effectively combat mould, it is **crucial to follow the tips outlined in this leaflet.** If mould is already present in your home, the first step is to remove it from the affected areas using a specialized fungicidal wash or **mould spray**. Furthermore, applying **special paints** can help postpone the return of mould; however, if condensation issues are not resolved, it is likely to reappear.

If the **mould issue continues after you have eliminated it** and taken steps to reduce condensation, please contact us to arrange an inspection. You can reach out to us;
0141 887 8613
repairs@williamsburghha.co.uk



Further Help and Advice

Keeping your home warm can help minimise the effects of condensation and mould. However, if you're facing challenges due to the **rising cost of living**, please reach out to our Financial Wellbeing Officer Kamila Feddek;
kamila.feddek@williamsburghha.co.uk

If you have a **pre-pay meter** and find it difficult to top up, contact Kamila for assistance. She can provide **guidance, support, and evaluate your eligibility for an emergency fuel voucher.**

For any additional help or advice regarding condensation and mould issues, please don't hesitate to contact the Customer Service team at **0141 887 8613**