









Mould and damp can make for an unpleasant home environment and can cause a lot of worry for the occupants and even create health issues. We have put together the below information which will hopefully cover anything you may need to know and on how this can be prevented.

## CONDENSATION

Condensation is completely normal within our homes and typically appears on cold windows especially overnight, or whilst the heating is on in the home or whilst cooking. It's not something to generally be concerned about but if you are finding this is happening quite a lot it could potentially create mould to form. The rooms in homes this can tend to happen more in are the bathroom and kitchen. We have put together some information on how this can be avoided below:

<b>CAUSES OF MOISTURE IN THE AIR</b>		<b>Pints of water released into the air on a daily basis:</b>
<b>Bathing or showering</b>		
<b>Drying clothes inside or the use of a tumble dryer</b>		
<b>Cooking</b>		
<b>Persons in the home</b>		

You can reduce and remove the amount of moisture released in your home by doing the following:

- Putting lids on pans during cooking and using extractor fans and hoods
- Ensuring extractor fans are on when bathing and showering and where possible open the window.
- Ensuring any rooms with clothes drying in on racks or where a tumble dryer is in use, are properly ventilated and any tumble dryer hoses are put outside whilst the machine is in use
- Using a mould cleaning product on the shower and bath sealant at least once a week
- Making sure there is at least a small gap between any items of furniture and any walls, especially external walls
- Open windows. Air flow within the home is so important to disperse excess moisture in the air that can cause condensation. In cold weather, these only need to be opened a fraction. If windows have trickle vents, please keep these open
- Keep your home warm, in summer it's advised to keep the house heated to a temperature over 18 degrees and at least over 21 degrees in the winter months
- Closing kitchen and bathroom doors when bathing, showering or cooking will stop any steam and moist air filtering through the home
- Opening bedroom windows for 15 minutes in the morning can help any moisture in the air from the night dissipate
- Wiping the insides of windowpanes, seals and window frames to remove any condensation which can allow mould to form

Mould spots can form in any environment where moisture is present, and the NHS website advises the following steps should be taken on dealing with this on areas less than 1 metre squared. If the area of mould is more than advised above, then please do contact us.

1. Fill a bucket with warm water and some mild detergent, such as washing-up liquid or a hand wash soap. NOT bleach
2. Use a cloth dipped in the soapy water to carefully wipe away any mould. Be careful not to brush this as this can release mould spores
3. Use a dry cloth after to remove any excess moisture from the wall and put the used clothes in a plastic bag and throw these away
4. All surfaces in the room should be thoroughly cleaned by either wet wiping or vacuuming to remove spores
5. Consider purchasing disposable dehumidifiers from Amazon s these can help reduce condensation and moisture in the home very effectively

### **PENETRATING DAMP and RISING DAMP**

If you are finding that mould is appearing in the corners of rooms or ceilings, this could indicate an internal leak, plumbing issue or water coming in to the property and could potentially be penetrating damp.

Rising damp is a type of damp that is typically an issue within older homes where there may be moisture present in the earth below and can seep through brickwork or the foundations of the house.

If you are concerned about these types of damp, please report these via our website [www.taylorwalsh.co.uk](http://www.taylorwalsh.co.uk) and we can look into this for you.