



# Understanding condensation, damp and mould in your home

# Why do I get condensation?

Most people's homes will get condensation, a type of dampness, at some time — usually when a lot of moisture and steam is being produced. When damp air comes into contact with a cold surface, it condenses back to water, causing condensation. Try breathing on to a mirror or spoon – it's the same effect.

Condensation is often found on windows, in the corners of rooms or behind furniture when it is positioned close to an external facing wall. It can be most noticeable when it forms on non-absorbent surfaces (such as windows or tiles) but it can form on any surface, such as walls, furnishings, curtains and clothing. You may not notice it until the growth or appearance of mould occurs.

Condensation in your home does not necessarily mean that there is anything wrong with the building. A small amount of condensation is quite normal, especially in older or less well insulated properties. However, too much condensation in your home can lead to damp, mould and mildew growth on walls and in the corners of rooms.

Very small amounts of mould growth can be managed with branded anti-fungicidal products that are available from most supermarkets and DIY stores.

**Did you know?  
The average family  
can produce about  
15 litres of moisture  
per day, just through  
their normal  
day-to-day activities.**



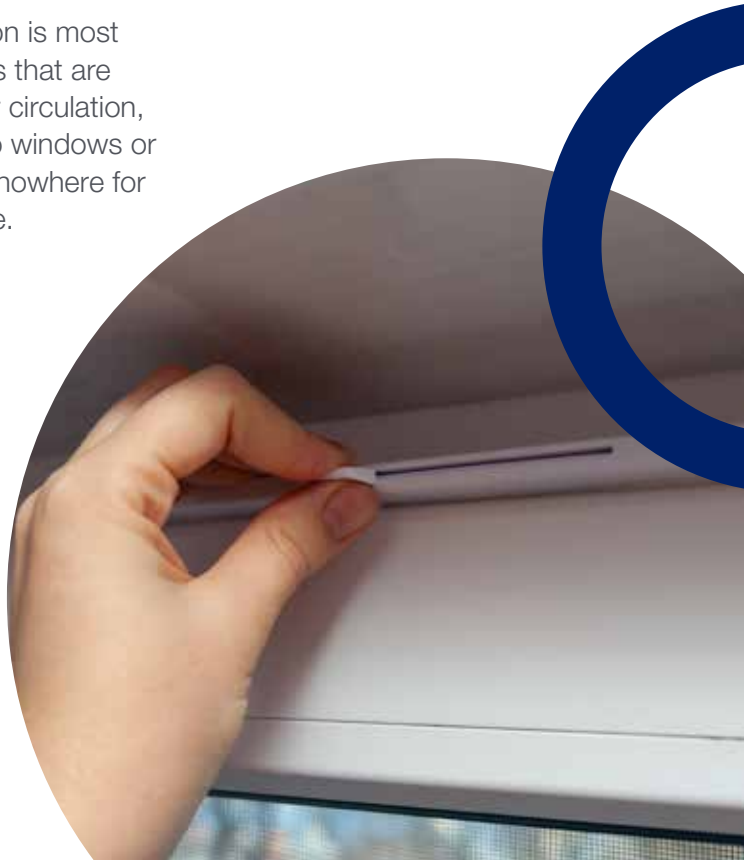
## What are the main causes of condensation in the home?

Your kitchen and bathroom are often responsible for most of the moisture in your home, as activities like cooking and showering generate a lot of steam.

Drying washing indoors can also create condensation. This is due to the moisture contained in your damp washing being released into the air as it dries.

Generally, condensation is most likely to occur in rooms that are humid or have poor air circulation, such as rooms with no windows or ventilation, as there is nowhere for the moisture to escape.

Condensation is most noticeable in cold weather, especially in winter. Adequate heating of your home is important in the prevention of condensation, as the warmer your home is, the more water vapour the air can hold, and therefore, the less chance you have of getting condensation.





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If you're  
experiencing any  
issues with mould,  
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