

# Damp, Mould and Condensation

This booklet has been created to help you keep your home damp and mould free. Find out how to reduce condensation, how to deal with mould and what to do if you think you have damp in your home.



**Bury**  
Council

**0161 686 8000**

**[www.bury.gov.uk/housingservices](http://www.bury.gov.uk/housingservices)**

# Condensation



**Did you know** that four people living in a three-bedroom property create around 112 pints of moisture a week just from breathing, cooking, showering, and boiling the kettle? If the air becomes too cold or if we create extra moisture, then condensation will appear.

Condensation can be caused by:

- Too much moisture in the home
- Not enough ventilation
- Cold surfaces
- Inadequate heating

Condensation is the main cause of damp and mould in our homes and you can wipe it dry immediately to prevent mould forming.

## Mould



If your home already has mould caused by condensation, it's a good idea to treat the mould first. To kill and remove mould:

- Wipe down the mould on the walls and window frames with mould cleaner. We can arrange to have this done for you if you prefer.
- Wash and dry any mouldy clothes or fabrics and shampoo carpets.
- Do not brush away mould, as it will move the spores around. Instead, use a vacuum cleaner.
- After treating, use anti-mould paint on the area. Do not put ordinary paint or wallpaper on top of the mould paint.

# Tips for Reducing Condensation



If you can, use a dehumidifier. These capture moisture in a container and can be emptied down the drain.



Dry washing outside if you can and in wetter weather, try not to dry clothes on radiators. Drying it on a dryer with the window open will reduce the moisture.



When bathing or cooking, shut the door to prevent moisture escaping and forming condensation in other rooms.



Ensure that your extract fans in the kitchen and bathroom are working and are on the trickle setting (where they move slowly all the time).



To let air move through items of clothing, try not to overfill cupboards and wardrobes.



Use the lockable latch setting on your windows. They allow for ventilation whilst also being secure.



Try not to put furniture in front of radiators or always leave a small gap in between them.

# Other causes of damp

Condensation is not the only cause of damp, it can also come from:

- Leaking pipes.
- Rain seeping through a damaged roof or guttering.
- Damaged brickwork or a failed damp proof course.
- Gutters that are filled with leaves or dirt.
- Damp seeping through chimneys into the inside chimney breast.

If you have damp and mould in your home which you are having trouble dealing with, contact us on 0161 686 8000. We will call you to discuss the issue and agree what repair work is required. We may ask to inspect the damp to understand the cause.

We understand that the cost-of-living crisis is putting pressure on people financially and heating your home may be a challenge. We have teams that can support you and provide specialist advice including energy and money advice. To find out more, contact us on 0161 686 8000 or visit [www.bury.gov.uk/housing/housing-services/advice-and-support](http://www.bury.gov.uk/housing/housing-services/advice-and-support)