



Home energy advice

Damp and mould

Let's deal with damp together

Call us

If you're an Alliance Homes customer and you think you may have a problem with damp and mould from any of the below causes, then contact us on **03000 120 120**.

We'll listen review the problem and start to build a plan of action.



What is damp and mould?

There are four main causes of damp and mould. If you think you might have any of these, get in contact with us.

1. Penetrating damp

Penetrating damp is when water from outside seeps through the walls. This can be caused by faulty roofing or guttering.

2. Leaky plumbing

Leaks from the toilets, showers, sinks or pipes, can get into walls and ceilings. They usually create a distinct damp patch, and will be there whatever the weather, usually after the faulty item is used.

3. Rising damp

This shows as a 'tide mark', or horizontal line on a ground floor wall. This is often a sign that groundwater is getting in.

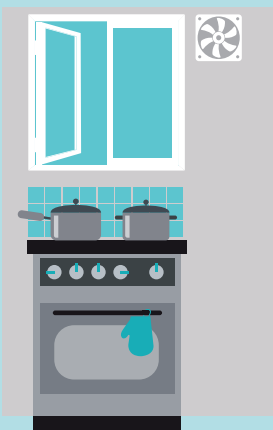
4. Condensation

There's always moisture in the air, even if we can't see it. Most moisture in your home is created by everyday activities like washing, cooking and bathing. If moist air touches a cold surface, like a window or wall, condensation will form and mould spots may grow.

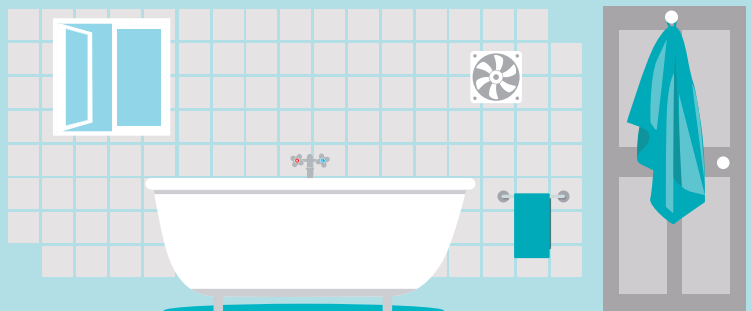
Condensation tips

If you think damp is caused by condensation, our team still want to hear from you, in the meantime, here are some that might help.

Reduce moisture in the air



- When cooking, keep lids on pans and the kitchen door closed. If you have one, use an extractor fan or consider opening the window.



- When taking a bath or shower, open a window or use an extractor fan, and close the bathroom door. Keep the door closed afterwards to stop moist air spreading.



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Reduce moisture in the air



- When running a bath, put cold water in first then add hot – it reduces steam by 90%.
- Dry clothing outdoors where possible. If you can't do that, use a room with the window open and door closed – and don't put clothes on radiators to dry.
- If you use a tumble dryer with a ventilation pipe, make sure it leads outside.
- Avoid using portable gas or paraffin heaters as these produce a lot of moisture.
- If you see condensation forming simply wipe it away with a clean dry cloth and consider increasing the ventilation.



Increase air flow



- Open windows for five minutes at a time, a couple of times a day.
If you can, open them on opposite sides of your home to let the most air circulate.
- Avoid putting too many things in cupboards, as this limits air circulating.
- Leave about two inches of space between furniture and external walls, so air can circulate.
- Don't leave clothing or bedding in the corners of rooms.
- Keep vents and window trickle vents open and clear.





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Treating mould



- Spray affected areas with mould remover (remember to wear gloves or any other protective equipment as well as follow the manufacturer's guidance).



- Paint the area with a mould killing paint. Remember, this paint is not effective if overpainted or if wallpaper is placed on top.



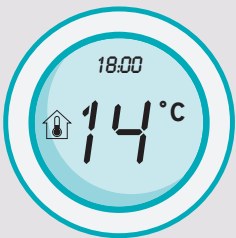
- Keep the area dry by regularly checking and wiping away any condensation.

Heat your home efficiently



Keeping your home warm will reduce the impact of condensation but, if you are interested in energy efficiency advice or you're struggling with using your heating system, the cost of your heating bills, or have issues with your energy provider please contact our Home Energy Advice service

homeenergyservice@alliancehomes.org.uk or call **03000 120 120**



Don't try to warm an unheated room by leaving the door open to a heated room – the warm air will enter the cold room and condense on cool surfaces.

Contact us

If you think you have any issues with any form of damp and mould, then don't hesitate to contact us and we'll send one of our team round.

Centre for Sustainable Energy

Produced in collaboration with the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE).

The charity supporting people and organisations to tackle the climate emergency and end the suffering caused by cold homes.

cse.org.uk

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