

What You need to know about Condensation in your home

SEVEN LOCKS HOUSING

— Strong **Foundations**,
Stronger **Communities**.....

SEVEN LOCKS

HOUSING

Did you know?

**That it is possible to control almost all condensation in our homes.
The key is to make sure your home is warm and well ventilated!**

WHAT IS CONDENSATION?

Condensation happens when moist air comes into contact with air or a surface that is at a lower temperature. This causes water droplets to form.

When this happens on your window, the glass mists up and drops of water run down the window.

When it happens on a wall, the wall soaks up the moisture and becomes damp. Mould could then grow on the damp areas.

WHAT CAUSES CONDENSATION?

In Britain condensation in houses mainly happens in the winter. We heat rooms in our homes, creating warm moist air. This warm air is able to hold more moisture than cold air.

When this warm moist air meets colder air or a colder surface, as it cools the air cannot retain the same amount of moisture. The moisture or water is then released and it forms condensation on the cooler surface or in the air.

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Did you know?

That very often the appearance of mould growth is the first sign of condensation?

WHERE DOES CONDENSATION COME FROM?

Moisture comes from many sources within a house. We produce water vapour during normal day-to-day activities. Daily, a household of 5 people puts about 10kg of water into the air.

This is approx 10 litres of water

Your body produces moisture all the time, when you breathe. We also put lots of moisture into the air when we:



Take a bath or shower



Cook or wash the dishes.



Dry clothes indoors



Use an unvented tumble dryer.



Use bottled gas heaters and paraffin heaters





This moist air travels through your home and when it comes into contact with a cool surface it will condense.

Did you know?

The best way to control condensation is to look at your lifestyle within your home.

HOW CAN I CONTROL CONDENSATION?

There are many ways that you can control the amount of condensation generated within your home:

-  After a bath or shower, ventilate the room to the outside. Simply opening a window and closing the bathroom door will help. If you have mechanical extraction keep it clean and well maintained and always use it.
-  Dry clothes out of doors wherever possible. When this is not possible dry clothes in a cool area of your home. This will take longer but will produce less moisture in the air at any one time. Ventilate the room you are using to dry clothes.
-  When people come in with wet coats. Avoid putting wet clothes on warm radiators. Hang them to dry in an area that is outside of the living area.
-  If you have trickle vents on your windows keep them open.

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Did you know?

Keeping your home warm helps to control condensation

HOW CAN I CONTROL CONDENSATION?






-  Keep the kitchen door closed when cooking
-  Keep lids on pots and pans when cooking
-  Don't overfill cupboards and wardrobes - make sure air can circulate
-  Don't keep furniture and beds hard against walls make sure air can circulate
-  In cold weather consider keeping your heating on low throughout the day
-  Avoid using flueless gas or paraffin heaters as they produce a lot of moisture
-  Adequately heat and ventilate rooms at risk
-  When using a tumble dryer that isn't vented make sure the hose is put out of a window or door

Did you know?

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HOW CAN I CONTROL CONDENSATION?

Keep your home warm:

-  Don't trap heat - avoid placing large pieces of furniture in front of a radiator this prevents the heat from circulating
-  Keep curtains above radiators
-  Thick curtains stop heat escaping; remember to close them at dusk
-  Keep curtains open on sunny days to help warm rooms
-  Keep doors open in rooms that get lots of sunlight; this will allow the warm air to circulate in your home.

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HOW DO I REMOVE MOULD GROWTH?

Generally Mould is easily removed.

It can be wiped off:



Use a disposable cloth and



a general household cleaner

There is no need to use strong chemicals to stop the mould growing back:



wipe over the area every few days using diluted household cleaner

If this becomes part of your regular cleaning routine and you follow as many of the steps to control condensation as possible the mould growth will not return.

Did you know?

That it is possible to control almost all condensation in our homes.

The key is to make sure your home is warm and well ventilated!

If you continue to experience condensation and problems with mould it may be necessary to have a technical survey carried out on your home.

If this is the case please contact:

Nick Munns, Contracts Surveyor

01858 414526

nick.munns@sevenlockshousing.co.uk or

Howard Skipp, Contract Supervisor

01858 414525

howard.skipp@sevenlockshousing.co.uk

You will be given advice or a trained member of staff will arrange to inspect the problem.

This leaflet gives advice about Managing condensation in your home.

If you know someone who needs this information in another format or language, please contact Customer Service on 01858 414500.

We keep a central register of our customers' with special communication needs so you only need to tell us about your requirements once.