

Condensation

Condensation is the most common form of unwanted dampness in buildings.

When warm, moist air comes into contact with a cold surface – such as walls, windows, floors and ceilings – it condenses to form water droplets or penetrates the surface, which becomes damp.

Damp can cause mould, which is bad for your health, and damage the structural integrity of the building.



Mould caused by moisture build-up due to condensation

South Seeds' tips to beat condensation in your home

- Regularly open windows and keep your property well ventilated
- Use pot lids when cooking and an extractor fan if you have one
- If you have a loft, make sure your roof vents aren't blocked
- Close curtains at night to prevent moisture from condensing on windows
- Put furniture against internal walls. If you put it against an external wall, leave a small gap for air to circulate
- Insulate and draughtproof your home to keep it warmer
- Where possible, dry clothes outside – drying them indoors increases moisture levels
- Don't block your chimney – use a chimney balloon to allow some air to circulate
- Try to keep the temperature in your home at a minimum of 18°C, as warm surfaces reduce condensation

Condensation runs down the window of a tenement flat

