

# Tackling Damp and Mould



## Do you have Damp or Mould?

Damp and mould can make your home harder to heat, cause health problems, and lead to expensive repairs.

Signs of damp include:

- Mould growth on walls or ceilings
- Peeling paint or wallpaper
- Musty smells
- Moisture on windows



# Do you have Damp or Mould?

## SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



### Damp and Mould can:

- Damage your property, making it unsafe
- Lead to high heating bills
- Reduce your quality of life
- Lead to breathing problems, including asthma and allergies
- Worsen lung conditions, especially in children and older adults
- Lead to expensive structural repairs
- Damage furniture and belongings



# Tackling Damp and Mould



## Where is Damp coming from?

- Condensation is caused by moist air meeting cold surfaces, condensation appears as water droplets on windows, damp patches, or mould, especially in colder areas.
- Penetrating damp occurs when water enters through walls, roofs, or windows, often after rain. Look for damp patches, peeling paint, or crumbling plaster.



# Where is Damp coming from? SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



- Rising damp is when groundwater rises through walls, leaving tide marks, crumbling plaster, or salty deposits near the base.
- Leaks such as dripping pipes, faulty gutters, or appliances cause damp patches near the source. Act quickly to prevent damage.

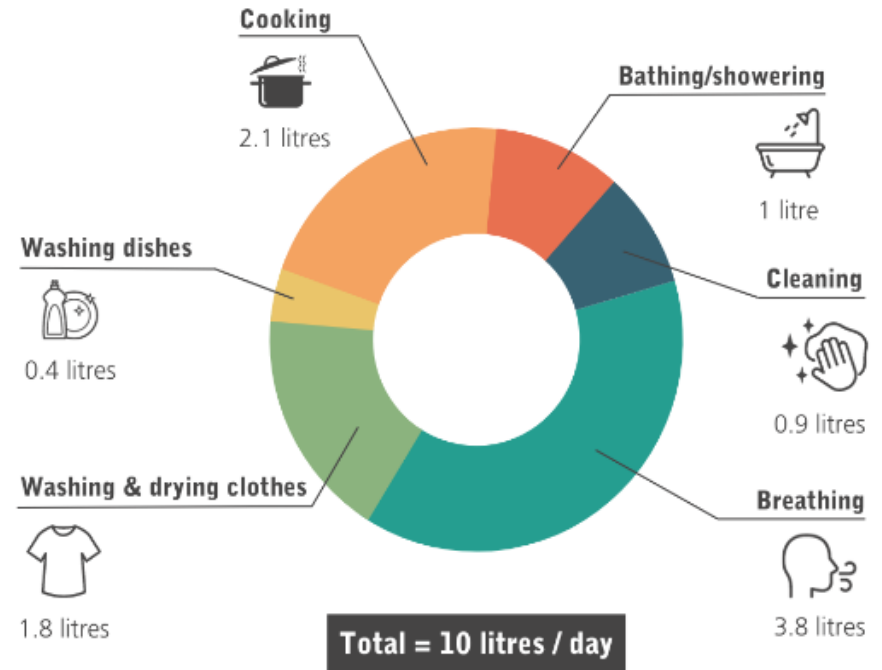


# Tackling Damp and Mould



## How Moisture is Generated at Home

- Moisture is created daily from activities and condenses on cold surfaces, leading to damp and mould.
- Keep rooms well-ventilated and reduce moisture where possible.



# How Moisture is Generated at Home

## SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



- Dry clothes outdoors or in a ventilated room with a clothes rack.
- Vent tumble dryers outside or use a condensation box.
- Keep lids on pots when cooking.
- Close kitchen and bathroom doors when in use.
- Wipe down wet surfaces like shower walls and windows.





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## How can I reduce Condensation?

- Condensation forms when moist air meets cold surfaces
- Reducing moisture in your home (see Card 3).
- Heating to keep surfaces warm.
- Ventilation to remove moist air.
- Insulating cold walls or windows to reduce heat loss (see Simple Improvements Cards).



# How can I reduce Condensation? SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



- Keep heating on low to prevent cold spots.
- Ventilate by opening windows or using extractor fans.
- Leave space behind furniture for air circulation.
- Avoid using portable gas heaters, which produce moisture.
- Don't block vents or install new draught-proofing in rooms with condensation issues.





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## Ventilation and Draughts

- Ventilation helps remove moisture and prevent mould, but too much ventilation can lead to heat loss.
- Kitchens and bathrooms need extra ventilation.
- Use extractor fans or adjustable vents.
- Ensure air bricks and grilles are clear.



# Ventilation and Draughts

## SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



- Open windows when cooking or bathing, but close doors to other rooms.
- Use trickle vents in windows if available.
- Install or use extractor fans in kitchens and bathrooms.
- Ensure air bricks, wall vents, and grilles aren't blocked.
- Leave gaps under doors to allow air movement between rooms.



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## Would a Dehumidifier Help Me?

A dehumidifier can reduce moisture in the air and help tackle condensation and mould. Try a disposable one first, then consider buying an electric one if:

- You already reduce moisture and ventilate but still see mould.
- Your home feels damp, especially in winter.



# Mould and Damp

## SUGGESTIONS & TIPS



- Set humidity to under 60% if possible.
- Close doors and windows in the room when using it.
- Buy a model that can remove at least 5 litres of water per day.
- Avoid smaller, cheaper models as they may not work well and need replacing.
- Check reviews, such as from ‘Which?’, before buying.

