

Windows & Condensation



Condensation commonly forms on windows in our homes. To understand why, and how you can manage this to prevent mould from forming, please read on....

Humidity levels will tend to build up during the day and continue to do so during the night particularly in bedrooms. This moisture will be attracted to colder surfaces which glazing generally is compared to walls. When condensation has built up on window glazing (particularly in the morning) it is important to take daily steps to avoid this condensation leading to mould growth.

Remember

For mould to grow it needs 3 things: mould spores, a food source (such as dust or any organic matter) and water. If you remove one of these 3 things, then the mould can't grow.

- Wipe down with squeegee wiper/dry cloths/window vacs.
- Open windows for a short period to allow air transfer.
- Use trickle vents, these will have a limited impact but will allow dry air into a property.
- Keep window sills as clear as possible to allow air to circulate and encourage the drying of any moisture that has formed.
- Windows can be left partially open on the night latch and remain locked and secure.
- You can catch condensation dripping from windows with condensation channels and sponge strips (available from DIY shops). If you wipe down windows and sills in the morning this will also help but be sure to wring out the cloth rather than dry it on a radiator. In extreme circumstances you may need to invest in moisture traps or a dehumidifier.
- Consider painting window reveals (see diagram for more information) with gloss paint or moisture resistant emulsion. This will be easier to wipe down and will not collect moisture like normal emulsion or wallpaper will.
- Use specific mould cleaning products ensuring product guidance is followed.



Window is open to allow ventilation but is still locked and secure.



Moisture traps can be purchased from DIY shops and will absorb excess moisture.

