

# Drying Clothes Indoors

(if unable to do so outside)



**During the winter months drying clothing outside is rarely a viable option. As such many people dry their washing indoors using a clothes horse or by hanging the wet clothes over radiators.**

The problem occurs when the, on average, 2 litres of water released from your washing into your home raises the overall relative humidity. This not only causes condensation on windows but can also deposit it on walls and ceilings. To reduce the chances of condensation forming and causing mould, follow these tips:

- If drying indoors use kitchens and bathrooms where mechanical extractor fans should be fitted.
- Isolate the room where drying is taking place by closing the door.
- Avoid drying clothes in bedrooms. As we sleep our bodies will add to the moisture in the air and if the room temperature also drops the humidity levels will increase beyond normal management levels.
- Ensure that clothes have been through the highest spin setting in washing machine prior to airing.
- Give heavy items an extra spin. Heavy clothing, things like jeans or bedding, are going to need an extra squeeze, to make sure excess water isn't kept inside. This will reduce the time it takes for them to dry.
- Use clothes airers/drying racks and allow enough free space around them. Don't overload airers and position these in a sunny area in the room and open the window or trickle vent if you can.
- Consider heated drying racks, heated airers run on your electricity supply, so the cost to run will vary, depending upon your supplier. On average they cost about 5p per hour.
- Turn clothes halfway through drying.
- Do not put clothes on radiators directly.
- Open windows periodically for short durations to allow fresh air transfer.
- Wipe down windows.
- Use moisture traps.



## Tumble Dryers

### Non-condensing

- Don't over fill.
- Make sure that vent hose is undamaged and vented fully to outside (preferably well below the window opening if hung out).
- Make sure any filters are regularly cleaned out.



### Condensing

- Don't over fill.
- Make sure water tanks are emptied and filters cleaned after every load.

