

How to save money in Winter

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How to reduce condensation and mould within your home as well as save money

Wythenshawe
Community Housing Group

DID YOU KNOW that each person in the home produces **4 pints** of moisture per day - that's **16 pints a day** for 4 people in the home – **112 pints a week** and a massive **5824 pints a year?** Imagine **5824 pints** of extra milk in your home.



By ventilating your home you can reduce condensation.

You only need to open the window to the thickness of a pen for no more than 15 millimetres. It's costly to heat your home so you don't want to lose all the heating through a fully open window.

In the morning is the best time to open windows at the front and rear of the house, this will allow air to flow through the property which will help remove the moist air.



BATHROOM & KITCHEN

Air contains moisture, by washing, bathing and even breathing will increase the amount of moisture within the air. As the warm moist air comes into contact with a cold surface such as a mirror, windows or even walls, the warm moist air will turn into droplets of water forming **condensation** on the surface.

- Ensure that the fan is working and in use
- Keep the door and window shut when in use
- When you have finished ensure that you keep the door shut and the fans on

WARNING – Unvented dryers **should not** be used and condensing dryers. Must be in a room that is well ventilated

Wall and window fans should be used and **not switched off** at the spur or switch.

DON'T dry clothes on radiators or on maidens in rooms without a fan. Dry clothes on an outside line or if indoors on a maiden, in the bathroom with the fan on and the door closed.



Use the fans in your home – the fans should be left on as the fans are fitted with a humidistat, this will work when the moisture is at its highest level. Trickle vents can be found in the top of your UPVC windows and should be open, this will allow an air flow through the property much like opening your windows and you can leave these open when you go out.

If there is a build-up of water on the inside of your window or on your window sill in the morning – use a paper towel to dry it up. Throw the paper towel away so that the water does not cause extra condensation.

The way to reduce the level of condensation within a property is to increase the period time you heat the property, heating the property for longer periods of time at a temperature between 19° and 23° degrees, constantly if possible, will reduce the chances of condensation occurring. This will increase the surface temperature of the walls, reducing the chance of condensation forming on cold surfaces and mould forming.

You should put your heating on in September and leave on until the end of April, between the temperature advised and let the thermostat regulate the heating system, this means, the heating system will only come on when it needs to come on, keeping the property at a temperature that provides a balanced climate.



Tips to remember to reduce condensation in your home

- 1 Try to keep the indoor temperature reasonably constant for as much of the time as possible - Warming up your home then cooling down creates condensation.
- 2 Try to avoid drying clothes indoors. If you have to use a maiden put it in a room with the fan on and the door closed.
- 3 Do not dry clothes on radiators.
- 4 Do not block radiators with furniture or other items.
- 5 Make sure your tumble dryer is correctly vented or any condensate is regularly emptied.
- 6 Keep furniture away from walls- allow air to circulate behind furniture especially on colder walls - usually the external walls.
- 7 Do not switch off any fans or ventilation units.

Tick sheet to help reduce condensation in your home



Do you have a fan in the Bathroom?

Is it working?

Is it being used?

Do you have a fan in the kitchen?

Is it working?

Is it being used?

Do you use the trickle vents in the windows?

Do you open windows to remove the moisture from your home?

Do you use your central heating?

Is your dryer vented externally – using the hose and a vent fitted through the wall?

Yes	No
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If you answered **YES** to the questions above and you still have a problem with condensation then you need to book a Surveyor inspection for a surveyor to survey your home.

If you answered **NO** to the questions above then please follow the advice in this leaflet to help reduce the condensation. If the condensation carries on after you have done all of the above then please ask for a surveyor inspection we are always willing to help and advise.



You can book a surveyor inspection by phoning Wythenshawe Community Housing Group on **0300 111 0000** or **0800 633 5500**.



Wythenshawe House
8 Poundswick Lane, Wythenshawe
Manchester, M22 9TA