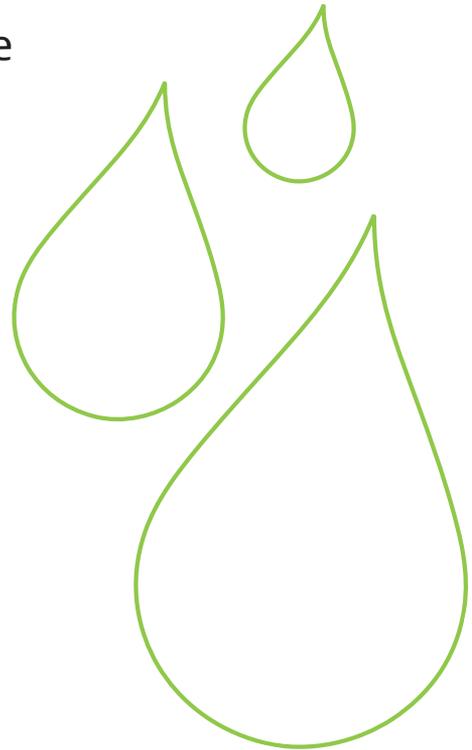


# Condensation in your home

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This booklet explains the most common causes of condensation and some simple ways to prevent it.



## Why does my home have condensation?

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The most common cause of dampness in the home is condensation. Condensation is formed when moisture in the air cools on cold surfaces like the inside of window panes and walls, forming water droplets. If it is not dealt with mould will grow.

Large quantities of moisture are created in bathrooms and kitchens every time we run baths and showers or cook. If this moisture can't escape it will condense on the walls and windows, creating condensation.

During the winter we all try to prevent cold draughts by closing the windows and turning up the heat. The warmer air absorbs more moisture and helps dry out the dampness, but during the night when the heating is turned down (or during the day when the house is unoccupied) the rooms become colder and the moisture condenses again on the walls and windows.

As well as water droplets and puddles of water on window sills, condensation can make the furniture and furnishings in the room damp and, if nothing is done, mould will spread to them.

## How can I prevent condensation?

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- Where possible, keep your home warm and open the windows a little. Some of the warm moist air will escape, reducing the amount of moisture that can condense inside your home.
- Don't use paraffin or calor gas heaters as these create more moisture.
- Keep your heating on at a steady level to warm the walls of your home. Avoid sudden drops in temperature during the night and when you are out at work all day.
- When running a bath, having a shower or cooking, keep the door closed and open a window or turn on the extractor fan. This will stop steam from the bathroom and kitchen escaping into the rest of your home.
- During the night, while you are asleep, you breathe out warm, moist air. Make sure you allow fresh air into the room and in the mornings open the window for a short time to allow the moisture to escape.
- Don't block up air bricks or vents as your home needs to breathe.
- Wipe any mould with a weak solution of bleach or another similar product.
- Ventilate your home. Use an extractor fan if one is fitted and heat your home so that the walls do not feel cold.

For further advice contact your Customer Liaison Officer by calling the RHP Customer Service Centre on:

**Freephone 0800 0322 433**

## Accessibility

At RHP we are committed to a policy of equal access to all of our information. If you would like this booklet supplied in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, on audio tape or in another language, please contact us on **0800 0322 433**, send an email to **communications@rhp.org.uk** or write to us at the address below.

Albanian	Sipas kërkesës, ky dokument gjithashtu gjendet edhe në gjuhë të tjera, me shkrim të madh dhe në formë dëgjimore.
Arabic	هذه الوثيقة متاحة أيضا بلغات أخرى والأحرف الطباعية الكبيرة وبطريقة سمعية عند الطلب.
Bengali	এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায়, বড় প্রিন্ট আকারে এবং অডিও টেপ আকারেও অনুরোধে পাওয়া যায়।
Farsi	این مدرک همچنین بنا به درخواست به زبانهای دیگر، در چاپ درشت و در فرمت صوتی موجود است.
Gujarati	આ દસ્તાવેજ વિનંતી કરવાથી બીજી ભાષાઓ, મોટા છાપેલા અક્ષરો અથવા ઓડિઓ રચનામાં પણ મળી રહેશે.
Hindi	अनुरोध पर यह दस्तावेज़ अन्य भाषाओं में, बड़े अक्षरों की छपाई और सुनने वाले माध्यम पर भी उपलब्ध है
Polish	Dokument ten jest na życzenie udostępniany także w innych wersjach językowych, w dużym druku lub w formie audio.
Punjabi	ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਅਤੇ ਆਡੀਓ ਟੇਪ 'ਤੇ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਹੋਇਆ ਵੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਲਿਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ।
Somali	Waxaa kale oo lagu heli karaa dokumentigaan luqado kale, daabacaad ballaaran, iyo cajal duuban haddii la soo waydiisto.
Urdu	درخواست پر یہ دستاویز دیگر زبانوں میں، بڑے حروف کی چھپائی اور سننے والے ذرائع پر بھی میسر ہے۔

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