

Damp, Condensation and Mould

The difference between damp, condensation and mould:

Damp is a general term which refers to too much moisture in a room or property. Damp problems tend to be at their worse during the winter months. If left unresolved damp can become an issue all year round.

Condensation is the most common cause of damp. It happens when warm moist air comes into contact with cold surfaces, like windows and walls. We produce moisture every day as we cook, wash and dry clothes - even as we breathe.

Mould is what happens when condensation builds up regularly and stays untreated for a long time. Mould can grow on walls, ceilings, furniture, and on clothing.

How to reduce the likelihood of mould developing in your home:

1. Reduce Moisture

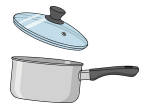
Wipe down condensation:

From windowsills and walls with a squeegee or cloth, then wring these out in the sink to dispose of the excess water.



In the kitchen:

Keep lids on pots and pans and close the door to stop steam escaping. Open a window or turn on extractor fan.



Drying clothes:

Do this outdoors if possible. Indoors, try not to use radiators. Instead, use a well-ventilated room such as the bathroom, with the door closed, window open and extractor fan on, or use a tumble dryer if you have one.



2. Ventilation and Airflow

Air needs to flow in and out of your home to keep it fresh and dry. Improve your home's ventilation by ensuring you:

- Don't block trickle vents or air bricks, make sure they are open and clear of obstructions
- Open windows several times throughout the day for at least five minutes, especially in bedrooms in the morning.
- Use extractor fans and open windows in bathrooms for at least 15 minutes after taking a shower or a bath, and in kitchens for 15 minutes after cooking.
- Leave space between furniture and cold walls to allow air to circulate freely.

3. Heating and Warmth

Condensation builds up easier in homes that are underheated. You can help avoid this by:

- Switching radiators on to prevent cold spots in your home.
- Maintaining a low, background level of heating if possible, as warm air can hold more moisture.
- If you can, set your thermostat to above 15°C as this will reduce condensation forming on external walls.
- Don't use bottled gas or paraffin heaters. They produce lots of moisture and are a health and safety risk. Most tenancy agreements do not permit the use of this type of heater. Check with us if you're unsure.



Reporting damp and mould

If you have issues with persistent damp, or if you have mould in your home, please report it to us immediately by:

➤ Phone: 0141 429 3900

➤ Scanning the QR code:

➤ Email: repairs@newgorbalsha.org.uk

➤ MyNewGorbals portal

