

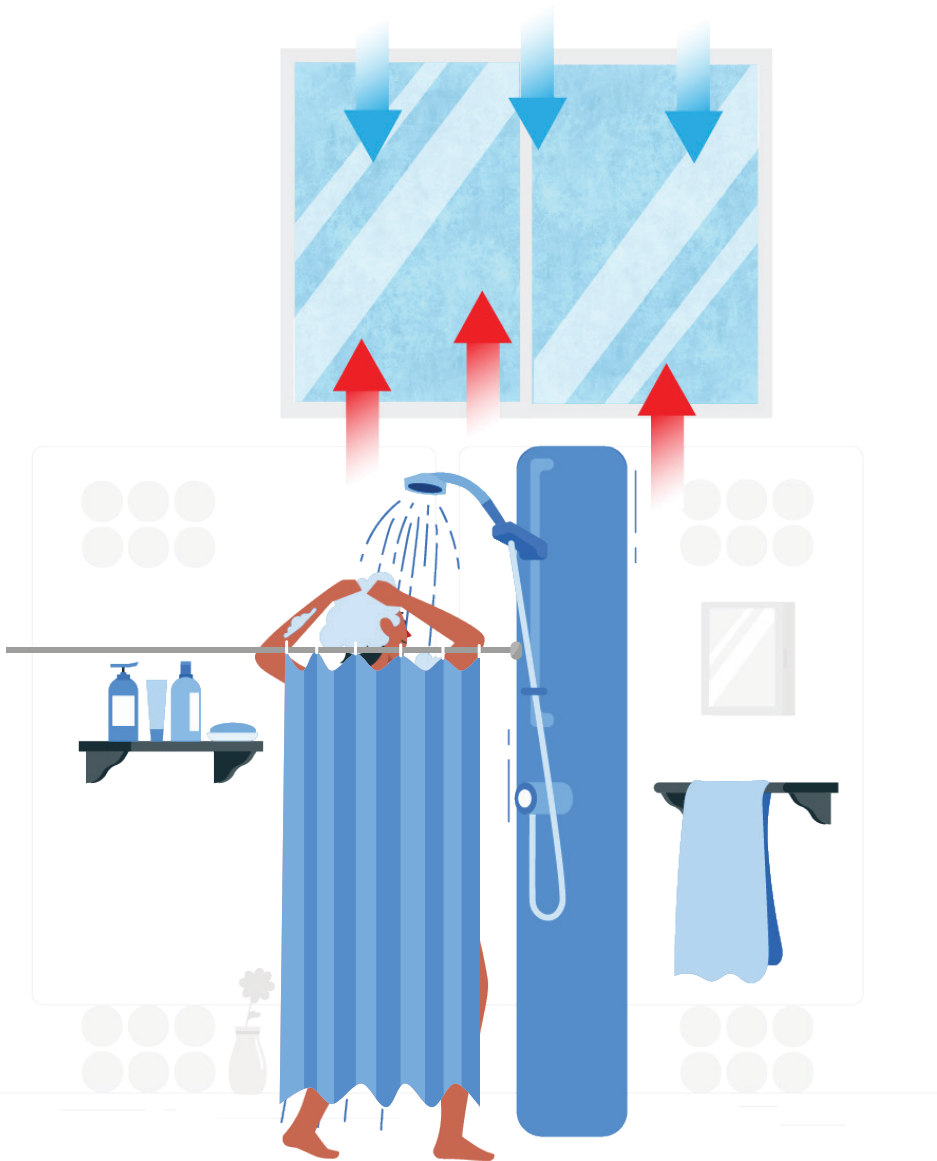
What to do about

damp, mould and condensation in your home



What is condensation?

If condensation has nowhere to escape, it will cling to your household surfaces as damp, and could lead to the growth of mould.



Is mould dangerous?

If mould gets onto your skin, or if you inhale it into your lungs, it can cause an allergic reaction. This can appear as a runny nose, sore throat or skin rash.

In some cases, it can lead to something even more serious like stopping you being able to breathe properly.

Babies, small children, people with underlying conditions such as asthma, and elderly people are most at risk.



How to prevent mould

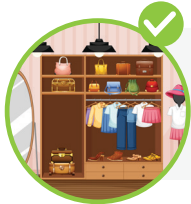
What to do



Use extractor fans or cooker hoods if you have them



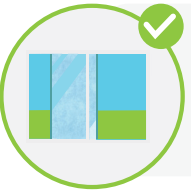
Use a dehumidifier where condensation occurs



Where possible, position wardrobes and move furniture against internal walls



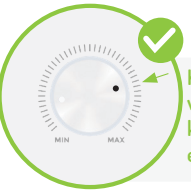
Remove mould growth with a fungicidal wash



Open windows regularly, especially your kitchen and bathroom for half an hour after you've used it



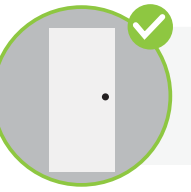
Dry washing outside on a line if possible



Keep your home as warm as possible by keeping the heating on, even if at a low heat



Dry wet clothes in the bathroom with the door closed and the window open or a fan on



Close the kitchen and bathroom doors when these rooms are in use



Wipe dry condensation from windows and walls



Wash mildewed clothes and shampoo carpets.

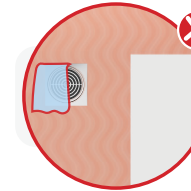


If possible, use a tumble dryer to dry your clothes

What not to do



Don't use paraffin and flueless bottled gas heaters



Don't block air vents



Don't fill cupboards to bursting point, allow the air to flow



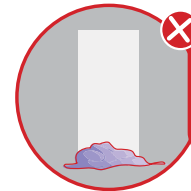
Don't draught-proof a room where there is a cooker or a fuel-burning heater, like a gas fire



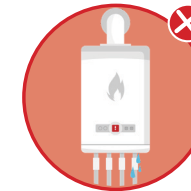
Don't place furniture or heavy curtains in front of radiators



Don't dry washing on radiators



Don't draught-proof rooms where there is condensation or mould



Don't let your boiler go unserviced. Get it checked annually.

Remember:

1. Open your windows regularly to air out your home
2. Keep your home warm

Contact us:

If you are a council tenant or tenant in the private rented sector and are doing all the actions in this leaflet on a regular basis in order to clean and prevent the growth of mould, but you are still having issues with mould in your home, you can contact the council.

Private rental tenants with issues regarding damp and mould should report the matter to the landlord. If the landlord fails to respond within 28 days, you can report it to Brent Council's Private Housing Team who will support with enforcement action:

www.brent.gov.uk/reportarepair

If you are a council tenant and have issues with damp and mould in your home after taking all the actions in this leaflet, you can report it to:

dampandmould@brent.gov.uk

How we will help you:

- We will act on all reports of damp and mould made to us within 28 days.
- Your health and safety are paramount, and we are here to support you.
- We will look into what is causing mould in your home and work with you on a plan to fix it as quickly as possible.
- For council tenants, our surveyors will upgrade humidity-control appliances, remove mould and redecorate affected areas, as needed.

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If you are a housing association tenant experiencing damp and mould, you must contact your housing association provider.

