

## How to remove mould

- Clean the affected area with water and a cloth—avoid using bleach or washing-up liquid.
- Apply a mould remover from a reputable brand, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Wash or dry clean mould-affected clothing and fabrics, and shampoo carpets. Refrain from brushing or vacuuming mould to prevent respiratory risks.

## I have followed the advice in this leaflet, what do I do next?

By following the advice in this leaflet, you should start noticing an improvement within four to six weeks. If the problem continues, it may be due to other causes of damp, such as:

- Plumbing issues: Faulty or leaking pipes
- Rising damp: Typically identified by a tide mark above the skirting board
- Penetrating damp: Caused by structural issues that allow rainwater to seep through walls, roofs, windows, or doors.



This leaflet has been produced by the Council of the Isles of Scilly Housing Team.

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## Keeping Homes Ventilated

A guide to keeping your home free from damp and mould.



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# Condensation

Condensation occurs when warm, humid air settles on a cold surface such as a window. The air cools on the cold glass causing water droplets to form.

Condensation can occur from activities like cooking, drying clothes indoors, and showering. Without regular ventilation, condensation can lead to mould.

Condensation also forms in cold rooms when there is little movement of air, and can also form behind furniture.

## The amount of moisture produced in your home in one day

Some of the things that create moisture in the home	Pints of water produced
2 people at home for 1 day	III
Cooking and boiling a kettle	IIIIII
Having a bath or shower	II
Washing clothes	I

# Tackling Condensation

Here are some tips to reduce condensation and improve ventilation:

- Use lids on saucepans and avoid overboiling kettles.
- Open windows during the day.
- Turn on extractor fans in the kitchen and bathroom.
- Keep kitchen and bathroom doors closed when in use.
- Dry clothes outside or ensure your tumble dryer vents outside.
- Limit shower or bath duration; start with a little cold water before adding hot water.
- Wipe away condensation daily.
- Leave space between furniture and walls for airflow.
- Avoid overloading wardrobes to improve air circulation.
- Keep window vents open.
- Keep your home warm.



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# Damp and Mould

Damp can result from:

- Untreated condensation and poor ventilation.
- Leaking pipes, waste systems, or overflows.
- Rain entering through leaking roofs, window frames, or overflowing blocked gutters.

## What to do if your home already has mould

- Avoid disturbing mould by brushing or vacuuming, as this can increase the risk of respiratory issues.
- Address any existing mould in your home and reduce condensation levels to prevent new growth.
- Since mould is a living organism, it must be killed for complete removal. Wipe affected areas with a fungicidal wash, following the manufacturer's guidelines.
- After treating the mould, redecorate with high-quality fungicidal paint to prevent recurrence.