

Looking after your home guide



Keeping your home free of damp

"Better homes and better services for better lives"

Acis Group Limited
Acis House
Bridge Street
Gainsborough
Lincolnshire
DN21 1GG

email: info@acisgroup.co.uk
web: www.acisgroup.co.uk
FREEPHONE: 0800 027 2057
text: 07800 002270

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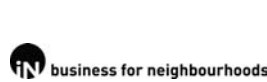
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ترجمہ کرنے کی سروس دستیاب ہے

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Do you have problems with damp in your home?

Damp and cold homes can cause mould on walls and furniture and damage window frames. Mould can increase the risk of respiratory illnesses that cause problems with breathing for some people.

Very often damp and mould growth is caused by condensation, which can be easily solved by taking simple steps. Read through this leaflet for tips on how to reduce the risk of damp and mould in your home.

What is condensation?

There is always moisture in the air. If the air gets cold it cannot hold all the moisture and tiny droplets of water appear. You may notice it when you see your breath on a cold day or when a mirror mists over when you have a bath. This is condensation.

How to avoid condensation:

- ✓ Cover pans and don't leave kettles boiling in the kitchen
- ✓ Avoid using paraffin and portable bottled-gas heaters as
- ✓ Dry clothes outdoors
- ✓ Keep a small window or trickle ventilators open to let air circulate
- ✓ Open windows in the kitchen and bathroom when in use
- ✓ Open doors to cupboards and wardrobes to allow air to circulate around furniture
- ✓ Leave space between the backs of wardrobes and the wall

- ✓ Where possible, put furniture against walls that have rooms either side
- ✓ Do not block ventilators or chimneys
- ✓ Do not draught proof rooms where there is a fuel-burning heater, cooker or gas fire
- ✓ Do not draught proof windows in the bathroom or kitchen

Remember: In cold weather the best way to keep rooms warm enough to avoid condensation is to keep the heating on low all day.

Is it condensation?

Damp can also be caused by: leaking pipes, wastes or overflows; rain seeping through a leaking roof; and rising damp due to a faulty damp course or a lack of damp course.

If your home is newly built it may be damp because the water used in its construction and in the plaster is still drying out.

If you do not think the damp in your home is caused by condensation, please contact us for our advice. We can arrange a time to visit you and make an assessment of the problem.

