



Wythenshawe
Community Housing Group



How to save money in winter



How to reduce condensation and reduce your heating bills at the same time.



DID YOU KNOW that each person in the home produces **4 pints** of moisture per day - that's **16 pints** a day for 4 people in the home - **112 pints a week** and a massive **5824 pints a year?** Imagine **5824 pints** of extra milk in your home.



Everyday things like **cooking, washing, bathing** and even **breathing** cause moisture, which is released into the air. The air can only hold a certain amount of water vapour - the warmer it is, the more it can hold. As this comes into contact with a cold surface such as mirror, a window or even a wall, the water vapour will turn into droplets of water - **condensation**. This is what happens when the mirrors mists up in the bathroom.

By ventilating your home you can reduce condensation, it is not enough to open a window after bathing or showering. If it's windy outside then the moisture **will be kept in** the bathroom and then will be pushed into the rest of the house. In a morning its **best to open a window at the front of the house and one at the back**, this will allow an air flow through the property and remove the moisture. **Then close it** when you go out.



WARNING Unvented dryers **should not** be used unless they are condensing dryers.

Wall and window fans should be used and **not switched off** at the spur or switch.

Don't dry clothes on radiators or on maidens in rooms without a fan. Dry clothes on an outside line or if indoors on a maiden in the bathroom with the fan on and the door closed.



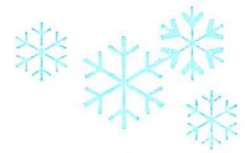
Use the fans and trickle vents in your home - the fans should be left on and if the fan has a humidistat this will work when the moisture is at its highest level. Trickle vents can be found in the top of your UPVC windows and should be open, this will allow an air flow through the property much like opening your windows and you can leave these open when you go out.

If there is a build-up of water on the inside of your window or on your window cill in the morning- use a paper towel to dry it up. Throw the paper towel away so the water does not cause extra condensation.

Heating - In cold weather, the best way to keep rooms warm enough to avoid condensation is to keep low background heating on all day, **even when there is no one at home**. If you have central heating set it to provide background warmth at around **15 degrees**, so when you feel more heat is required increase your thermostat to around **18 to 20 degrees**, the rise in temperature will be around **3 to 5 degrees**, which is better than heating your home from cold ...which would increase the condensation.



Tips to remember to reduce condensation in your home >>



- 1 Try to keep the indoor temperature reasonably constant for as much of the time as possible - Warming up your home then cooling down creates condensation.
- 2 Try to avoid drying clothes indoors. If you have to use a maiden put it in a room with the fan on and the door closed.
- 3 Do not dry clothes on radiators.
- 4 Do not block radiators with furniture or other items.
- 5 Make sure your tumble dryer is correctly vented or any condensate is regularly emptied.
- 6 Keep furniture away from walls- allow air to circulate behind furniture especially on colder walls - usually the external walls.
- 7 Do not switch off any fans or ventilation units.



Tick sheet to help reduce condensation in your home

	YES	NO
Do you have a fan in the Bathroom?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is it working?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is it being used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a fan in the kitchen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is it working?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is it being used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you use the trickle vents in the windows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you open windows to remove the moisture from your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you use your central heating?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is your dryer vented externally? - using the hose and a vent fitted through the wall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you answered **YES** to the questions above and you still have a problem with condensation then you need to book a Surveyor inspection for a surveyor to survey your home.

If you answered **NO** to the questions above then please follow the advice in this leaflet to help reduce the condensation. If the condensation carries on after you have done all of the above then please ask for a surveyor inspection

- we are always willing to help and advise.



You can **book a surveyor inspection** by phoning **Wythenshawe Community Housing Group** on **0300 111 0000** or **0800 633 5500**



Contact us:

Parkway Green T: 0300 111 0000
 Willow Park T: 0800 633 5500
 Wythenshawe House,
 8 Poundswick Lane, Wythenshawe,
 Manchester M22 9TA

