



## How to see if you have damp

You'll probably be able to see or smell whether you have damp in the winter, but you can look for warning signs at any time of year.

Check the following places for signs of damp:

- » **Walls and ceilings**
- » **Windows**
- » **Bathrooms and kitchens**  
(grouting, sealant, in cupboards)
- » **Curtains**
- » **Soft furnishings**  
(sofas, chairs, etc.)
- » **Unheated storage spaces**  
(basement, garage, etc.)

Signs of damp include:

- » **Black speckled marks**
- » **Grey growths**
- » **Discolouration or staining on ceilings and walls**
- » **Condensation on windows**
- » **Curtains**
- » **Water along windowsills**
- » **Musty smells**



## How to prevent damp:

### » **Keep on top of outdoor home maintenance**

Check your roof regularly for damage, especially after stormy weather. Keep gutters clear and fix or replace as soon as any damage occurs. A gutter clearing tool will make light work of this, or install gutter guards to help keep leaves and debris out.

### » **Keep the home warm**

Try to maintain a constant temperature within your home by setting your thermostat to a lower temperature, but over a longer period each day.



### » **Make sure your home is well-ventilated**

Open windows to allow moisture to escape. This is especially important in your bathroom and during the colder months when we spend more time indoors.



### » **Take care when cooking**

Covering pans with a lid whilst cooking will help minimise condensation on your kitchen windows. Switch on your cooker hood when using the hob and leave it on for five minutes once you've finished to clear the air. Regularly replace the filter on your cooker hood to make sure it's working efficiently.

### » **Remove excess moisture with a dehumidifier**