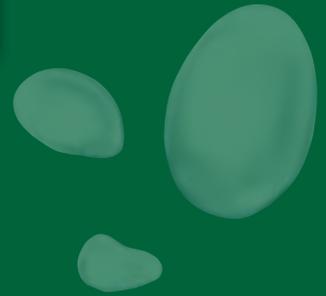


**KEEP YOUR HOME**

**HEALTHY**

**ALL YEAR ROUND**



**Help prevent condensation and keep your home comfortable**

Keep temperature levels in your home consistent



Keep air flowing through your home



Reduce moisture in your home, where you can



It's important to look after your home throughout the year to make sure everything is working properly and to prevent issues like damp and condensation. Here are some steps you can take to keep your home comfortable and well-maintained in every season.

### 1 Check your boiler

Even if you don't regularly use your heating, it's a good idea to test your boiler from time to time. Switch it on for an hour and make sure your radiators heat up. Boilers and pipes can seize up when they're not used for long periods.

If your boiler isn't working as it should, please get in touch with us so we can arrange a repair.



### 2 Check your heaters

If you use other types of heating, such as storage heaters or solar-powered systems, check these regularly too. Run the system for around 20 minutes to make sure it's working correctly. If any radiators or controls aren't working, let us know.

### 3 Gas safety check

We carry out annual gas safety checks in your home. If your appointment's due, make sure you're in for it. These checks are legally required and important for your safety. If you've missed your appointment, please get in touch to rebook as soon as possible.

#### Did you know?

With normal use, an extractor fan costs approximately £9.60 per year to run in a bathroom and £12.90 per year in a kitchen.

## Understanding condensation

Condensation happens when warm air in a room comes into contact with a cold surface, such as a window, mirror or wall, and forms water droplets. This happens more in rooms where there is a lot of moisture, such as bathrooms and kitchens, and in rooms where there are a lot of people.

### Keep temperature levels consistent

- If possible, keep the temperature in your home between **18 - 21 degrees**.

We know that heating your home can be expensive. For tips on reducing energy use, plus information on energy-related grants and benefits, visit our cost of living help and support pages at [homeplus.co.uk](http://homeplus.co.uk) or [wrekin.com](http://wrekin.com)

### Reduce moisture levels in your home

- Keep lids on pans when cooking.
- Close internal doors when showering or cooking.
- Use extractor fans in kitchens and bathrooms if you have them.
- Dry clothes outdoors where possible. If drying clothes indoors, keep the door closed and open a window or run the extractor fan.

### Keep air flowing through your home

- Open your bedroom windows for 10 minutes when you get up in the morning.
- Leave a small gap between furniture and external walls.
- Keep curtains or blinds open for at least four to five hours every day, so that trickle vents can work properly.



## BATHROOM

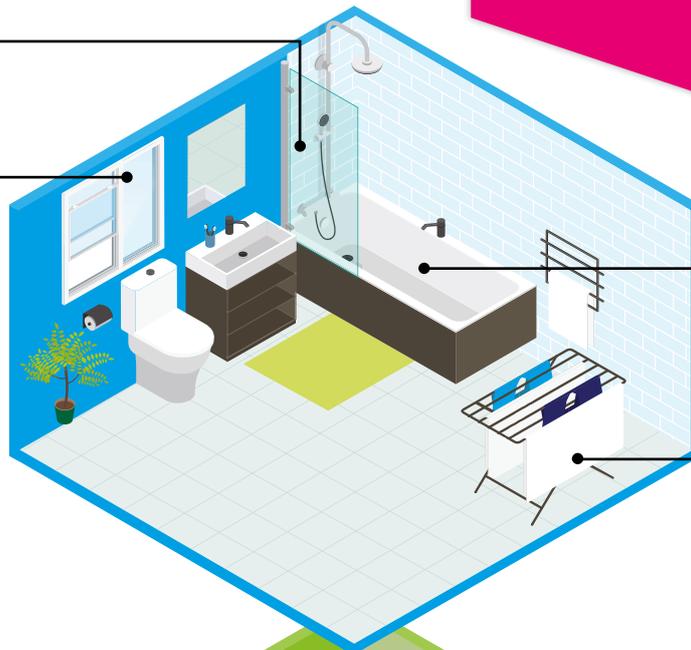
Reduce the moisture left on tiling and shower screens, after showering, by giving them a quick wipe down.

Wipe down windows and sills, to remove condensation and pools of water.

▶ **Moisture absorbers** can help tackle condensation by removing moisture from the air. They can be placed wherever condensation collects – including window sills, cupboards and smaller rooms. They can also be used in areas of high humidity, such as bathrooms and kitchens.



Following these tips will reduce the cost of redecoration and replacement items



During and after a bath or shower, open a window or use your extractor fan if you have one - or preferably both.

If your bathroom does not have a window, please open your bathroom door slightly for a short period of time with the extractor fan turned on. This will help the extractor draw moisture out of the bathroom.

Avoid drying clothes indoors and especially on radiators. If you have no option, dry your clothes in the bathroom with the door closed and open a window or run the extractor fan.

## KITCHEN

When you're cooking, open a window or use your extractor fan – or preferably both.

Using saucepan lids will save energy and reduce condensation.

If you're using a tumble-dryer inside your home, make sure it is properly vented to the outside.



Air your kitchen by opening a window for ten minutes, once you have finished cooking.

Try boiling your kettle next to an open window or under an extraction fan.

If you see condensation on any surfaces or windows, wipe them down.

## LIVING ROOM

Keep curtains or blinds open for at least four to five hours every day.

Keep windows around your home open for a while every day (five to 10 minutes is enough) and always keep trickle vents at the top of window frames open by sliding the grill to allow air to pass through them.



Pull any furniture away from the wall to leave a gap for air to circulate.

▶ Positioning a **hygrometer** in your living room will allow you to measure humidity and water vapour in the air – they are inexpensive and easily available to buy online.



If you experience a build-up of condensation in your home, spot any signs of mould growth, or notice anything that needs repairing, please contact us:

Homes Plus tenants: call 0800 048 8955

Wrekin tenants: call 01952 217217 or email [enquiries@wrekin.com](mailto:enquiries@wrekin.com)

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You can find more information about damp, condensation and mould, and how to prevent it on our websites.



[homesplus.co.uk/damp-and-condensation](https://homesplus.co.uk/damp-and-condensation)



[wrekin.com/damp-and-condensation](https://wrekin.com/damp-and-condensation)

  
Housing Plus Group

The logo for Housing Plus Group, featuring a stylized white outline of three houses above the text "Housing Plus Group" in a white, sans-serif font.