

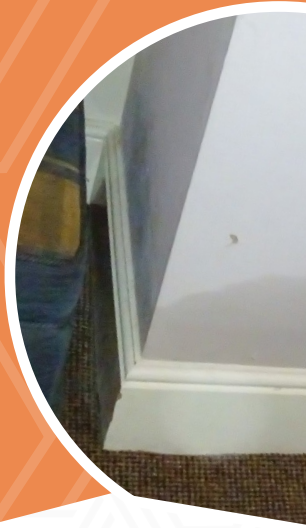
Student Housing

UNDERSTANDING DAMP & MOULD

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Understanding Damp

Damp occurs within properties for a number of reasons. The photos above show types of damp that can typically effect student properties.

Damp normally occurs in the corner of a room and starts at ground level. It's **highly unlikely** for damp to occur on any other floor than the ground floor.

Damp can occur for a number of reasons, one common cause is *water ingress*, this can occur where water enters the brickwork from gaps in the mortar line on the external of the property (*also known as **penetrating damp***).

The most common form of damp is **rising damp**. This occurs from the foundations of the property and travels up the walls within the property.

If you experience any form of damp, please complete a maintenance request at www.Student-Housing.co.uk/Fix.

Understanding Mould

Rising damp and *penetrating damp* **can** cause mould to form. The hot air within the house from the heating can cause mould to form, which spores and grows in size.

Mould does not always mean a house has damp. In 93% of cases of mould growth, the issue is caused by *CONDENSATION*. **Condensation occurs when hot internal air meets the cold air and water droplets form.** (This is common on windows in the morning).

Condensation is the **main cause** of mould growth on walls and ceilings within Victorian, Edwardian and Georgian properties within the UK.

DID YOU KNOW:

Cooking food, breathing, showering, washing, tumble drying, sweating, talking, snoring, portable heating, airing clothes, air conditioning, fish tanks, clothing, hoarding, closing windows, locking doors & not hanging wet towels up can **all cause condensation mould to form!**

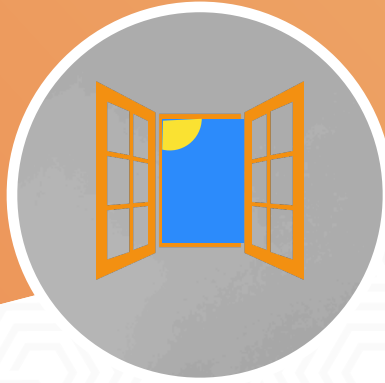


HOW TO: Prevent Mould



VENTILATION Open Doors

Allow air to circulate around the property, open doors to allow air to mix in rooms.



FRESH AIR Open Windows

Allow fresh air in. Open the windows to bring in fresh air from outside.



CLEAN & TIDY Clear Away Items

Move items away from the walls and keep the room clean and tidy!

If you want to prevent mould in your house ensure you open the doors to allow the central air to circulate the property. Open the windows to allow fresh air to enter and ensure the property is clean and tidy!

Move furniture away from the walls. When furniture is close to the walls it can restrict airflow and cause damp humid environments perfect for mould to grow!

Make sure you've stored everything in a suitable place, piles of clothes (especially sweaty ones like gym clothes) can get mouldy very quickly!

MYTH: Having mould grow in your room means you're *dirty*! This isn't true! Mould grows in humid environments where fresh air is not available, mould is not related to clean (or dirty) items!!



HOW TO: **Remove Mould**

Removing mould is easy & safe! A common misconception is that mould is unsafe. It's *only* prolonged exposure to high humidity mould growth that can cause respiratory issues to those who already suffer with asthma. Mould can't cause you to *develop asthma*!



STEP 1

GET YOUR SUPPLIES

Purchase a light non abrasive sponge, some anti-mould spray and some rubber gloves! (We recommend the £1 "Astonish" spray from Poundland!)

STEP 2

PREPARE THE CLEANING MATERIALS

Apply a small amount of water to the non abrasive sponge so its slightly damp to touch. Gently (VERY GENTLY) wipe the area in a circular area. Be sure to rinse and repeat until the area is clear!

STEP 3

PREVENT FUTURE GROWTH

Spray the wall lightly with your anti mould spray, with a clean, dry, non abrasive cloth work the spray into the effected area using a light circular motion. Be careful to not damage any paintwork!

HOW TO: **Resolve Damp**

Firstly we need to ensure the issue is caused by either rising or penetrating damp and ensure that the issue isn't caused by poor ventilation! Once we've checked your house and confirmed that damp exists there are a number of things we'll do to ensure you and the building are well looked after!

A **Damp Course Injections** - Typically for rising damp, we'll inject a damp course into the brickwork, preventing the external damp from rising (*Approx 1 days work*)

B **Re-Pointing Brickwork** - For damp caused by water ingress (*penetrating damp*) we'll re-point the external brickwork to ensure no water can get into the building (*Approx 1 days work*)

C **Room Tanking** - For rooms below the level of the water table such as basements we'll need to tank the room and re-plaster (*Approx 3 days work*) + 3 Weeks to dry + 1 day Re-Painting!

D **Damp proofing** - sometimes we'll need to take the plaster off the wall back to the brickwork, treat the area and re-plaster. (*Approx 2 days*) + 3 Weeks Drying + 1 Day Re-Painting!



'Damp & Mould'

Other Causes

Sometimes areas can look as if they're *affected by damp* but actually **something else** is causing the issue. Take a look at other issues you could potentially be experiencing below;

1. Yellow, White or Brown circular shape stains to the ceiling

Typically caused by a leak of some kind. Most likely caused by a leaking heating pipe or slipped roof tile allowing rain water into the plasterboard.

(Replacing roof tiles or repairing minor leaks is easy work! Report the issue via a maintenance request online and we'll get straight to it!)

2. Wet Marks or Patches on the middle of the chimney breast

Typically caused by water getting into the chimney from the flue at the top (the part smoke used to come out of).

Water falls inside the chimney and sits in the brickwork.

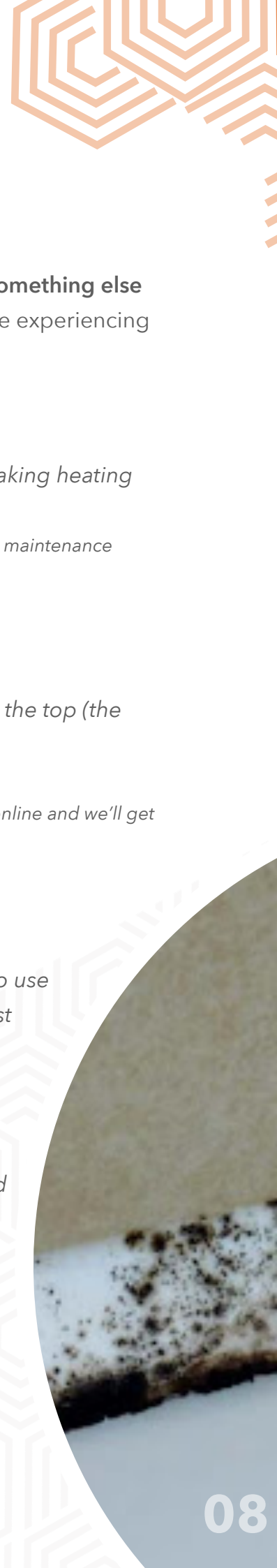
(To solve this we can cap your chimney to prevent water getting in! Report this online and we'll get it resolved for you!)

3. Black Marks or Lines on Bath, Shower, Sink or Toilet seals

Typically caused by lack of cleaning to the bathroom, you'll need to use a clear bleach and scrub the seals to get them white again! For best results: soak the black areas in bleach and leave overnight!

4. Yellow or Orange 'film' in bath, sink or shower

This is caused by natural oils and fats in your skin, but can stain and damage tiles, porcelain and grout, you'll need to scrub these with bathroom cleaner to remove!



Student Housing

Help & Advice:

info@Student-Housing.co.uk

Report Maintenance:

www.Student-Housing.co.uk/Fix