

Natural Ventilation



Homeowner Ventilation System Guide

Condensation and mould

In Britain, condensation in houses is a problem, particularly where warm moist air is generated in areas like kitchens and bathrooms or by drying clothes over radiators. The moisture in the air gets left on surfaces in colder parts of the house resulting in water running down the windows and leading to black mould on walls, ceilings and in cupboards.

How can we reduce humidity levels:

- **Adequate Heating** – Air is like a sponge, the warmer it is the more moisture it will hold
- **Adequate Insulation** – Prevents cold surfaces from moisture condensation
- **Adequate Ventilation** – Removes the excess moisture held in the warm air and provides fresh air resulting in better indoor air quality

To limit excess moisture in the indoor air and condensation in your home, the following tips may be helpful:

- Avoid drying clothes indoors, especially on radiators
- Reduce moist air spreading around your home by using local extract fans and keeping internal doors closed when cooking, bathing or showering
- If you have one, make sure your tumble dryer's venting duct leads outside (unless it is a self-condensing dryer)

Provide adequate ventilation

Natural ventilation: Ventilation in your home has been provided using boost only extract fans in shower rooms, bathrooms and kitchens, with trickle vents in all window frames, and openable windows.

Trickle vents are small openings fitted within all window frames in your home, which allow background ventilation air flows to help to maintain good indoor air quality.

What is it and why is it there?

Local extract fans in shower rooms, bathrooms and kitchens (in a non-recirculating cooker hood) provide ventilation air flows to remove high amounts of moisture, odours and other indoor pollutants using fans powered by electricity.

Opening windows allow for additional ventilation when needed.

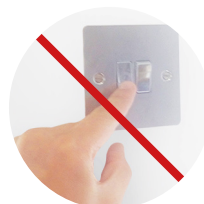
To allow air to circulate around your home you may have noticed that all the doors have gaps underneath them - Do not block these gaps as it will stop air flowing between rooms to those with extract fans and between rooms when trickle vents are open.



The average family produces approximately 27 pints of moisture per day.



Walls, ceiling, floors & soft furnishings quickly show signs of black mould growth.



Natural Ventilation isn't continuous but all the same, they shouldn't be turning off the isolation switch.

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What does it do?

Ventilation in your home is provided for three reasons:

1. Supply fresh air for the occupants via Trickle Vents.
2. Help to ensure good indoor air quality, which needs the removal of enough moisture, odours, and other indoor pollutants.
3. Help to maintain good thermal comfort; ventilation air flows help heat to mix from different sources.

The different parts of the ventilation system work together to allow fresh air to circulate through the home.

When fitted in your home trickle vents should be open to provide background ventilation. Trickle Vents can be closed to limit cold draught at certain times, or within rooms you are not using

Poor levels of ventilation along with excess moisture in the indoor air can contribute to mould growth, so it is important to use the ventilation provided to keep your home 'fresh' and to remove moisture at source, particularly from shower rooms, bathrooms and kitchens. To limit excess moisture in the indoor air and condensation in your home, the following tips may be helpful:

- avoid drying clothes indoors, especially on radiators;
- if you have one, make sure your tumble dryer's venting duct leads outside (unless it is a self-condensing dryer);
- reduce moist air spreading around your home by using local extract fans and keeping internal doors closed when cooking, bathing, or showering.

How will it help?

This system will help prevent the build-up of moisture in the home by removing steam and odours created whilst cooking and bathing. This will help reduce the risk of black mould forming on the walls and behind cupboards.

How do I control it?

You should have a manual switch in the kitchen/utility room to switch the fans on into boost.

It is likely the light switch for the WC, bathroom, and en-suite will switch the fan on into boost but this may be via a separate switch or built-in PIR/Humidistat

Excessive humidity and smells

In extreme circumstances, where there is excessive moisture in the air, or strong smells are present, there may be a requirement for additional purge ventilation. The fan will not detect strong smells in the air.

Does the unit require any maintenance?

Maintenance is minimal as the fan is designed to reduce the amount of dirt build-up. However, to clean the unit the fan's power supply must be turned OFF first, then carefully wipe the inlets and front face with a damp cloth until clean.