

Clear alarm signal for too much humidity:
The windows fog up.



The water **must be wiped away**, so that this moisture does not need to be ventilated via the room air.

Mould – How to remove it...

Affected porous materials such as wallpaper, plasterboard or wooden cladding cannot be cleaned, and must instead be removed.

Otherwise, clean the other affected spots with 70 to 80 % ethyl alcohol or hydrogen peroxide (pharmacy). Then these areas must be dried thoroughly. Avoid using special chemicals, as health risks cannot be ruled out due to the dubious chlorine compounds they often contain. Ventilate heavily during cleaning.

Further information

House of sustainability of Münster (Environmental Advice Centre)

Advice & info material
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Tue-Thur 10-12, 2-4 p.m., Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,

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Amt für Wohnungswesen und Quartiersentwicklung (Housing Office)

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Schimmelnetzwerk Münster

www.stadt-muenster.de/umwelt/schimmelnetzwerk

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Heating & Airing

Doing it right



Tips
for proper heating and airing
&
to remove mould

Tips for proper heating and airing

1. **The room temperature should always be between 19 and 22 °C.**

Thermostat valves make it easy: They measure the room temperature and regulate the heat themselves.



But the thermostat valve can only work properly if it is not blocked by furniture or curtains.

2. **Heat and ventilate all rooms evenly and simultaneously – also lesser-used rooms.**

3. **How to ventilate properly:**

During the heating period, avoid permanent ventilation with tilted windows. Instead, air only for a brief period (intense ventilation 5-10 minutes) and strongly (draught) many times a day with the heat valve turned low. Then close the windows and reset the heat valves to the desired temperature.

4. **Check whether you heat and ventilate properly.** Measure the temperature with a thermometer and relative humidity with a hygrometer. In well-aired rooms, the humidity level should be 35–55 %. You can borrow thermo-/hygrometers free of charge from the environmental advice centre.

5. **Keep doors to cooler rooms closed, e.g. to an unheated storage room.** This means that no warm, moist air from the other rooms can condense on the walls of the unheated room.

6. **Check and clean regularly – where present – the ventilation grids on windows and doors, as well as bathroom ventilators.** This ensures the circulation of air.

7. **Do not place large furniture against cold outdoor or stairwell walls.**

8. **Do not block your radiators with furniture or curtains. Otherwise, the warm air cannot circulate throughout the room.** And heating costs will increase.

9. **Avoid water vapour.** If that is not possible ventilate immediately. Ventilate well when cooking and after mopping. Do not dry laundry in the apartment. Cover aquariums. Avoid humidifiers. Water plants only moderately.

10. **Wipe or dry off tiles / shower walls with a squeegee after showering.**

11. **New windows with insulated glass are better sealed than old windows.** That is why you must ventilate more often. With old wooden windows the air can often escape through cracks or unsealed joints.

Mould – How it forms

Mould needs moisture.

Mould can form already from a relative air humidity of 70 %.

Large amounts of water vapour are produced in every household. This must be absorbed by the air.

The release of moisture into apartments each day are, for example:

People	1.0 to 1.5 litres
Cooking	0.5 to 1.0 litres
Showering (per person)	0.5 to 1.0 litres
Laundry drying (4.5 kg)	
- tumble-dry	1.0 to 1.5 litres
- drip-dry	2.0 to 3.5 litres
Potted plants	0.5 to 1.5 litres

This moisture must be aired away, otherwise it will condense in colder places (e.g. outer walls).

The risk of mould increases!

Depending on the temperature, air can absorb only a limited amount of water vapour. Warm air stores more water vapour than cold air. During ventilation, the warm, moist air in the apartment is replaced by colder and thus drier air from outside. This means that moisture does not condense on walls, ceilings or furniture – and the risk of mould decreases.