

Managing Mould



What is Mould?

Mould is part of a group of very common organisms called fungi it is present virtually everywhere, both indoors and outdoors.

[Reference: Mould - Fact sheets \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

What causes mould?

The most common causes are:

- Water ingress
- Weather or environmental conditions
- Internal condensation

Condensation can be caused by cooking, washing or drying clothes, lack of ventilation or limited air circulation.

Condensation ends up on ceilings, walls and behind free-standing furniture. When it comes into contact with cold surfaces, such as mirrors, walls, wall tiles, windows and windows surrounds it condenses and forms water droplets.

If the surfaces are not dried and aired regularly, mould growth can occur.

In the colder months of the year, it takes more effort to keep the inside of a home warm and dry.

Taking Care of Your Home and Preventing Mould

To prevent mould you must keep your home reasonably clean, avoid excessive clutter and ventilate your property adequately.

Most mould can be easily removed and prevented from coming back with simple steps.

Ensuring good airflow:

- Ventilate your home by turning on the exhaust fans particularly when bathing, showering, cooking or drying clothes;
- Open windows and doors to let fresh air in to improve cross ventilation and reduce humidity;
- Limit clutter in areas with poor airflow including wardrobes, cupboards, laundries or garage;

Clean the mould:

- Regularly clean and vacuum, keep your home free from dirt, dust, organic matter and bacteria;
- Wipe down tiles to clean off soap scum that mould feeds on;
- Wipe away any moisture on your windows and walls to keep the inside of your home dry;
- Regularly clean mouldy surfaces by using a mild detergent or vinegar diluted in water solution (4 parts vinegar to 1 part water);
- If the mould cannot be wiped away from hard surfaces, use a diluted bleach solution (250mls bleach in 4 litres water) and make sure you use gloves and a mask to protect your skin and eyes;
- Ensure the surface is dried completely once cleaned.

Limit moisture and dampness:

- Report any water leaks or plumbing problems to the Repairs Team;
- Use moisture absorbers, especially in enclosed spaces like your wardrobe.

How Repairs Can Help

If there is mould in your home that you cannot remove or that keeps coming back, please report this to the Repairs Team by:

- Calling our Repairs line on: **(02) 9281 1764**
- Emailing: Repairs@womenshousingcompany.org
- Online [Repairs Request Form](#)

Please include details about where the mould is, how long it has been there, steps you have taken to remove the mould and photos to the Repairs Team.

Tenant Responsibilities

If it becomes obvious that the cause of the mould in your home is poor use of ventilation, poor property cleanliness or not taking reasonable steps to prevent mould, the WHC may pass the cost of treatment to you for payment by tenant recharge.

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