

### Causes of damp and mould

Mould needs a moist environment to grow. Sources of moisture can include leaks, high humidity, condensation, or flooding. With its source of moisture, mould could potentially spread within the property's walls, ceilings, bathroom tiles, carpet, and furniture.

Rising damp is a form of dampness that also affects the walls of buildings when moisture travels up through the porous masonry by capillary action. This tends to happen when the building is missing or has a deteriorated damp course layer. When this happens, the inside of the property begins to display brown/yellow splotches.



### How to prevent damp and mould?

- Poor ventilation can lead to a build-up of moisture indoors, encouraging damp and mould growth. Ensuring good ventilation, especially in the bathrooms, kitchen, and basement (if applicable), could keep mould at bay.
- Leave the extractor fan on when cooking or when taking a shower or a bath.
- When cooking or taking a shower, close the doors to the other rooms.
- Try to hang your washing outside. We understand this isn't always possible with London weather, so when drying inside, ensure to leave a window open to keep fresh air circulating.
- Use a dehumidifier. These can be purchased online.
- Try to leave a gap between the walls and furniture.

