

Mould

Usually green or black, mould is a fungus that thrives in damp areas. It grows on walls, clothes or on furniture in areas with little air flow. Mould produces tiny spores — carried in the air, they can cause damage if inhaled by people that are sensitive or allergic to them.

Who is responsible for mould in your home?

Connect has a legal obligation to provide a rental property that is fit to live in and is properly maintained.

At the same time, you have a responsibility to keep your home well ventilated, clean and to report any damage to Connect.

If you notice mould in your home that is persistent and resistant to routine cleaning and ventilation, fill in a Maintenance Form and provide it to us immediately. We will work with you to sort out a solution.

How can I prevent mould in my home?

The best way is to reduce humidity and ensure proper ventilation. Here are some tips:

- Use fans where possible, and exhaust fans when showering or cooking
- If the weather permits, keep windows and doors open to allow air to circulate
- Do not push furniture up against walls in areas where mould occurred previously
- Declutter rooms and wardrobes
- Limit the number of indoor plants
- Report all water leaks or plumbing problems as soon as they occur
- Use de-humidifiers or moisture absorbers (available from hardware stores)
- Regularly wipe surfaces that get damp

What do I do if I find mould in my home?

Remove mould as soon as it appears: the earlier you find and treat mould, the easier it is to prevent it from reoccurring.

Make sure you wear a dust mask and eye protection when cleaning mould.

Dilute vinegar in water (4 parts vinegar to 1 part water), spray it onto the mould and wipe it off with a microfibre cloth.

If this doesn't work, you may need a diluted bleach solution or a commercial product. Always refer to the user instructions, ventilate the area and protect your skin, eyes and clothes.

Change the rinsing water and any sponges used regularly.