

Preventing Window Condensation

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Why Window Condensation Happens

Window condensation occurs when warm, moisture-laden indoor air contacts a cooler window surface. While occasional condensation can be normal during cold weather, persistent condensation may indicate high indoor humidity, inadequate ventilation, or poor air circulation.

Best Practices

- Maintain indoor relative humidity around 30–50% (lower during very cold weather if needed).
- Run bathroom exhaust fans during and for 20–30 minutes after showering.
- Use kitchen exhaust fans while cooking.
- Ensure dryer vents discharge outdoors.
- Keep air moving with your HVAC system or ceiling fans.
- Open blinds or curtains periodically to improve airflow around windows.
- Consider a whole-home dehumidifier if humidity remains elevated.
- Inspect windows, weatherstripping, and seals for damage.

Common Mistakes

- Ignoring recurring condensation throughout the winter.
- Keeping indoor humidity too high for outdoor conditions.
- Blocking airflow with tightly closed blinds or heavy curtains.
- Failing to use exhaust fans during moisture-producing activities.
- Assuming new windows alone will solve indoor humidity problems.

Signs You Should Investigate Further

- Condensation persists most days during winter.
- Water pools on window sills.
- Peeling paint or stained trim around windows.
- Visible mold-like growth on frames or sashes.
- Musty odors near windows.

Kali's Perspective

Condensation is often a symptom rather than the problem itself. Instead of simply wiping water away, look at the bigger picture: ventilation, indoor humidity, insulation, and everyday habits all

work together to create a healthier home.

Related Resources

Bathroom Ventilation Best Practices
Attic Ventilation Best Practices
Whole-Home Dehumidifier Guide
Seasonal Home Maintenance Checklist

Disclaimer

This guide is provided for educational purposes only and should not be considered engineering, HVAC, inspection, environmental, or construction advice. Every home is different. Consult qualified professionals for property-specific recommendations.