

Identifying Damp in the Home

Damp Category	Signs/Symptoms	Cause	Remedial Work
Rising Damp 	<p>Dampness and/or staining of internal and external walls, usually at ground level and up to approx 1 metre.</p> <p>Skirting board decay</p> <p>Rusty nails in the skirting</p> <p>Wetrot to subfloor timbers i.e. joists, wall plates etc.</p> <p>Damage to plasterwork, flaking, blistering etc</p> <p>Salt deposits usually at ground level and up to approx 1 metre.</p>	<p>Missing physical damp proof course (DPC)</p> <p>Decayed physical damp proof course (DPC)</p> <p>The physical damp proof course (DPC) is lower than the surrounding groundwork</p> <p>The physical DPC may also be bridged by extensions or other forms of abutted wall, fence pillars etc.</p>	<p>may require:</p> <p>Injection of chemical damp proof course to overcome missing/failed physical course (frequent)</p> <p>Removal & replacement of skirting boards (frequent)</p> <p>Removal of plaster, sealing brickwork and subsequent replacement of render and finished plaster (frequent)</p> <p>Replacement of rotting floor timbers (occasional)</p>
Penetrating Damp 	<p>Dampness and/or staining of internal and external walls, can be present at any height and can propagate to ceilings</p> <p>Damage to plasterwork, flaking, blistering etc</p> <p>Salt deposits on walls</p> <p>Timber decay</p>	<p>Loss of integrity to external building construction;</p> <p>Defective roofing</p> <p>Cracked render/brickwork</p> <p>Decayed windows/doors</p> <p>Defective guttering</p>	<p>General external building maintenance required (always)</p> <p>Removal of plaster, sealing brickwork and subsequent replacement of render and finished plaster (frequent)</p> <p>Removal & replacement of skirting boards (occasional)</p> <p>Replacement of rotting sub floor timbers (occasional)</p>
Lateral Penetrating Damp 	<p>Dampness and/or staining of internal and external walls, can be present at any height and can propagate to ceilings</p> <p>Damage to plasterwork, flaking, blistering etc</p> <p>Salt deposits on walls</p> <p>Timber decay</p>	<p>Missing physical damp proof course (DPC)</p> <p>Decayed physical damp proof course (DPC)</p> <p>Raised soil levels or other building works adjacent to external wall</p>	<p>Removal of high external soil levels where practical (occasional)</p> <p>Removal of plaster and the installation of a tanking system (frequent)</p> <p>Removal & replacement of skirting boards (frequent)</p> <p>Replacement of rotting timbers (occasional)</p>
Condensation 	<p>Staining to interior décor</p> <p>Black mould</p> <p>Musty odour</p> <p>Wetness on interior décor, windows/sills</p>	<p>Inadequate ventilation and air circulation</p> <p>High moisture content in air within home (kitchens, bathrooms etc.)</p> <p>High temperature fluctuations</p>	<p>Installation of additional sub floor, boiler room air bricks (fairly frequent)</p> <p>Installation of high level air vents</p> <p>Installation of ventilation system, ie humidity controlled electric air vents (fairly frequent)</p> <p>Installation of positive pressure system</p>

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