

# What causes black mould?

There are essentially two culprits who conspire to generate fungal growth (e.g. black mould) in homes. These are "poor ventilation" and "moisture". These two villains are responsible for multiple crimes against property but the good news is that they can be contained! Firstly we need to understand why this is happening and ideally treat the cause as well as the symptoms.

## 1. Condensation – 9 out of 10 cases!

If you have black spot mould, chances are "condensation" is the problem, so before embarking on expensive building works rule this out first. With the increasing emphasis on saving energy, not to mention the rising cost of heating, we are all encouraged to stop warmth escaping from our homes in a variety of ways. Often this means closing windows, sealing up draughty doors and even covering up brick vents. Consequently we are increasingly living in almost "hermetically sealed" homes which do not "breathe". Combine this with water evaporating from cooking, drying clothes in front of radiators, steam from showers etc. and airborne moisture is trapped in the house and condenses on cold surfaces such as windows and cold walls, where it causes paint to blister and wall paper to lift, giving a home to black spot mould.

### Solution:

- a) Tackle cause: If you can, improve the ventilation in the room.
- b) Kill the black mould with Kingfisher "Mould Cure".
- c) Apply 2 x coats of Kingfisher "Thermapaint Anti-Mould"

