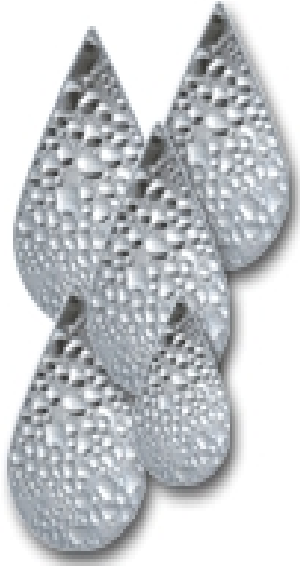


DEFINITIONS OF WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH CONDENSATION



Despite the fact that condensation is one of the most commonly occurring forms of unwanted dampness in residential properties in the UK it is surprising that there is a general lack of understanding amongst the public and even professionals about its causes, capabilities and how to reduce it.

If you have a condensation problem we suggest that you read [Informative Article 1](#) on this site which is a detailed explanation about condensation written by Graham Coleman, one of the country's leading experts. You should also read the short articles in [condensation explained](#) which are written in an easy to follow format that it is hoped will help you understand why condensation forms, how to reduce it and how water vapour is distributed.

To help with your understanding of condensation it is perhaps better to start with the meanings of words commonly used when condensation is being discussed.

### ***Condensation***

Condensation is the change in matter of a substance to a solid as a gas, (or vapour) to a liquid.

### ***Condensate***

Liquid which has been condensed from a vapour is called condensate. Water is the liquid condensed from

### ***Dew Point (temperature)***

Dew point is the temperature at which water vapour reverts from its gas state to a liquid. Sometimes referred to as the

*Or for the purists:*

The dew point of a given parcel of air is the temperature to which the parcel must be cooled at constant

### ***Relative Humidity***

Relative humidity is the term used to describe the amount of water vapour in the atmosphere at a given

*Or for the purists:*

Relative humidity is defined as the ratio of the partial pressure of water vapour in a gaseous mixture of a

### ***Vapour***

Vapour is the gaseous state of matter that is a solid or liquid at normal room temperature.

### ***Vapour Pressure***

The balance between condensation and evaporation gives ~~vapour quantity~~ *vapour pressure*

### ***Water Vapour***

Water vapour is the gas phase of water.