



Our tips on how to deal with bathroom condensation

As the colder months approach, we find an increase in our customers experiencing bathroom condensation not because of a faulty unit, but due to a wide variety of other factors explained below.

It is important that we familiarise ourselves with how this occurs, as well as ways on how to effectively manage and minimise it from happening.

Condensation takes place when steam comes into contact with cold surfaces such as windows, mirrors and tiles, forming small droplets throughout the bathroom.

Contributing Factors:

- **Bathroom is Airtight** – For the exhaust fan to work effectively, replacement air with a volume equivalent to what is being extracted must be able to enter the room. Generally, air is drawn through the gap under the door (recommended to be around 20mm) or a door vent. Leaving the window open, especially during winter, will only increase the amount of condensation as cold air will be able to enter the room from the outside.
- **Direction of Airflow** – Placing the exhaust fan further away from the replacement air source with the steam source located in between will generate the best airflow, as this will enable the air to pass through and drag most of the steam straight to the exhaust fan (see diagram on page 2).
- **Lack of Heating** – During cold weather, it is only expected for the entire bathroom to be cold as well, meaning that the use of a bathroom heater for a couple of minutes before and during shower is highly suggested to increase overall room temperature, which prevents the steam from touching cold surfaces.
- **Extremely Hot & Long Showers** – Unfortunately, a huge amount of steam will always be produced so if nothing else seems to be working, the answer may be to reduce the hot water temperature as this will also considerably reduce the steam output.
- **Airflow Obstruction** – Any form of obstruction, especially along the ducting and backdraft shutter, will severely limit the ability of the fan to extract steam, so ensure that there are no ceiling frames/insulation materials preventing the backdraft shutter from fully opening, and running the duct as straight as possible.
- **Open Shower** – If the shower space is not enclosed via glass panels, the steam will most likely expand sideways and spread throughout the room. It is highly recommended that a more powerful fan is used in bathrooms with an open shower.
- **Floor to Ceiling Tiles** – This will present a larger cold surface area for steam to make contact with, therefore the use of a heater inside the bathroom is essential to raise the surface temperature.
- **Undersized Fan** – Sometimes, the size of the fan may be inadequate for the bathroom requiring a much higher airflow, therefore a bigger one is required. An extra fan may also be installed for extremely large bathrooms. The use of a Run On Timer will also help as this will enable the fan to continue running even after leaving the room.
- **Consider a Dehumidifier** – A dehumidifier will remove moisture from the air and collect it as water. The use of this in a bathroom will result in a huge reduction in condensation.

If you still require further assistance with this issue, you are more than welcome to call the Ventair team on 03 9775 0556 or view our Ventilation & Extraction Guide catalogue to learn more about what we offer.

<https://view.publitas.com/ventair-pty-ltd/heating-ventilation-and-extraction-catalogue-v1-3-a5-060721-hr/page/1>

Supply air

Placing your exhaust further away from the replacement air source will create a better airflow within the room itself.

