

# Understanding and Managing Surface Condensation on Doors and Windows

## DID YOU KNOW

New buildings and major renovations are more susceptible to humidity issues because they are more airtight and materials release moisture as they dry.

## WINTER CONDENSATION:

Surface condensation is usually caused by high indoor humidity, insufficient heating, or lack of air circulation on interior surfaces.

## PRACTICAL ADVICE

Use a hygrometer, set ventilation to continuous mode, ensure warm air reaches windows, increase indoor temperature slightly, and maintain stable temperatures during cold periods.

## FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE

Humidity below 25 percent can cause discomfort, while humidity above 40 percent can lead to window condensation. Maintaining a balanced environment prevents damage and increases comfort.

## INFORMATION AND ADVICE

During periods of extreme cold, it is common to feel cold air near large glazed surfaces. Sealed glass units have thermal resistance values ranging from R3 to R6 compared with R24.5 for above ground walls. Appropriate heating sources should be positioned near glazed areas to compensate for this difference.

/ Table A: Detailed Recommended Maximum Indoor Relative Humidity

Outdoor Temperature (°C)	Recommended Maximum Indoor RH (%)
5	45
0	40
-5	38
-10	35
-15	33
-20	30
-25	28
-28 and below	25

