# **Mould Management**



#### What causes mould?

Mould grows in damp, dull, and poorly ventilated spaces such as kitchens, bathrooms, and laundries. Dust and dirt in these areas also encourages mould to breed. Mould spores can be damaging to your health and should be removed as soon as possible.

# What are my responsibilities as a tenant?

As a tenant, you have a duty to prevent mould growth. This also benefits you by preventing damage to your home and reducing the health risks associated with breathing in mould spores. If your living conditions contribute to mould growth you may be recharged the cost of its removal, as well as any repairs required.



## How can I help prevent mould in my home?

- Open windows and doors to ventilate your home and reduce humidity build up.
- Open curtains and blinds during the day to allow some sunlight in.
- Use the bathroom exhaust fan whenever hot water is being used, and open the window after showering.
- Use the kitchen exhaust fan whenever cooking.
- Open all doors and windows in the laundry when using the dryer.
- Hang wet clothes outside.
- Do not put clothes or shoes away until they are completely dry.
- If you notice condensation on the walls, ceiling or windows, wipe it down and dry the area thoroughly.
- Leave internal doors open to allow air circulation through your home.
- Keep your home uncluttered.
- Clean the bathroom frequently.
- Regularly wipe down window sills, walls, ceiling fans, cupboard tops, and any other surface that collects dust, lint or salt (coastal areas).
- Air and clean rugs and mats regularly to prevent mould harbourage.
- When possible, put baby and children's mattresses out in the sun for a couple of hours.
- Use dehumidifiers in the bathroom, laundry, and kitchen areas. They draw in the moisture-laden air from around the room and deposit the water into an in-built container.

### Removing mould

Remove mould by using a suitable mould remover or a solution of vinegar and water. Ensure you comply with the safety precautions provided by the manufacturer to protect your eyes and skin from the solution or mould remover.

After cleaning the mould-affected areas with the solution, wipe the surfaces with a damp cloth. Do not use the same cloth used with the solution. Always wipe surfaces dry with a clean cloth.