

# PREVENTING MILDEW

## Proper heating and airing

There are dark spots on your wall. **Mildew!** Mildew has to be removed. Mildew is **dangerous to your health**. But if you heat and air properly, mildew can't develop.

Mildew is a fungus. The seeds of fungi are called spores. They are very small. They are invisible. The spores are everywhere in the air.



### Mildew loves cool walls

Mildew fungi love **damp and cool spots** on walls. They like to stick to them and grow. You can tell mildew fungi by the **dark spots** on your walls.

The damp spots on the walls usually don't come from the outside.

Often, the humid air in the rooms is to blame. **The humid air touches the cold wall**. Then the water from the air sticks to the wall.



### You have to let the humid air out

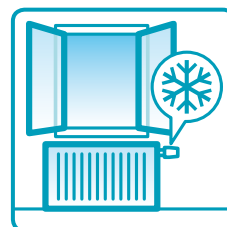
Whenever people are present in an apartment, the air becomes warm and humid. We produce moisture when we sleep, too.

Showering and cooking also puts water vapor into the air.



**You have to get the humid air out of the rooms!** Because otherwise, mildew can grow in them.

**Air out** all rooms. Especially the **bathroom** and the **bedroom**. The humidity should be between 50 and 55 percent.



### Airing correctly

Turn **down your heater for a short period of time**. Open the **windows wide** in all rooms.

This short airing out with wide-open windows is called **shock ventilation**. Do this **shock ventilation three to five times a day for about five minutes each time**.

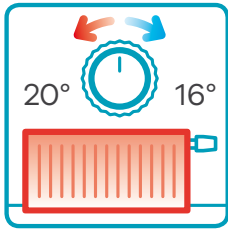


The windows have to be **open wide**. That way enough fresh air can come into the room. As soon as you can no longer see any steam on the glass, you have aired enough.



If you only tilt the window, not enough fresh air comes into the room. The humid air stays in the room. The walls get cold.

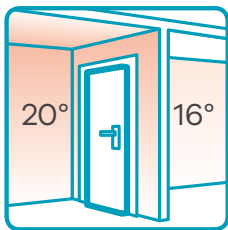
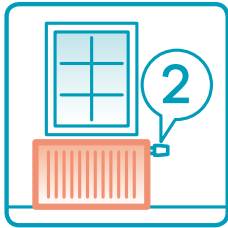
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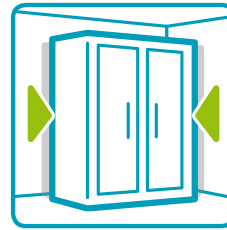
## Proper heating

Proper heating saves energy. If you heat properly, no mildew can grow.

**Always heat all the rooms** in your apartment. Depending on how you use them, between 16 and 20 degrees. You can set the temperature you want in the room with the dials on the heaters. The heater should be set to at least 2. Even in rooms that you want to keep a little cooler or rooms that you don't use very often.



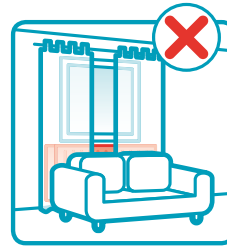
Leave the **doors to the cooler rooms closed**. Otherwise, the warm and humid air from the warmer rooms will flow into them. And then mildew can grow.



## Leave a space

You can make sure that mildew can't grow by putting your furniture in the right places.

**Don't put any furniture directly against an outside wall**. Leave about **10 cm** distance between furniture and the wall. That way, fresh air gets behind the furniture more easily. And mildew can't grow.



Don't put any furniture in front of the heaters. Curtains must not cover the heaters. This way, the warmth from the heater can get into the room.

## You have more questions?

If you have questions about heating and airing, please contact your building caretaker or call us.