



**BERDICK**  
WINDOWS & DOORS

*Custom* is the new normal



Water or frost on windows is condensation. Condensation is formed when warm moist air comes in contact with cooler dry air.

An example of this is when a bathroom mirror “steams up” after a hot shower. Just like that mirror, the inside or outside of your window can sweat or fog because of temperature differentials

Faulty windows do not cause condensation. Glass is usually the first place you notice

condensation because glass surfaces have the lowest temperature of any surface in a house.

### WHAT’S THE CAUSE?

The source of this moisture can be credited to normal household activity such as cooking, dishwashing, bathing, clothes washing, plants, aquariums, and exposed earth floors in crawlspaces.

If you didn’t have as much condensation before replacing your old windows, it’s probably because they were drafty. Good windows and insulation all create barriers to the air exchange of a home. When combined with the additional water vapor (moisture) from showers, cooking, or from clothes dryers not vented to the outside, the result is excess moisture and a high relative indoor humidity level.

### REDUCING CONDENSATION

***Controlling the humidity inside your home is the first step.*** Let’s look at where the moisture comes from; during the hot humid summer, your house absorbs moisture. The same principle applies to a newly constructed or remodeled home, due to the abundance of moisture from the building materials used in construction.

During the beginning of the colder seasons, when you start to heat your home, condensation occurs. After a few weeks, your home will begin to dry out and you’ll see less condensation. Opening a window briefly is a quick temporary solution. The drier cold air will enter the room while the moist air is allowed to escape.

## OTHER TIPS TO REDUCING CONDENSATION

Reduce amount of moisture produced:

- turn off humidifiers in the home;
- cover cooking pots to reduce steam;
- don't hang clothes to dry inside;
- vent the clothes dryer to the outdoors;
- take shorter showers and baths;
- reduce the number of houseplants in your home;
- don't store firewood indoors;
- cover exposed earth in basements or crawlspaces with a moisture barrier
- Installing and using a dehumidifier

Improve air circulation:

- open drapes or blinds over windows;
- move furniture or objects blocking registers;
- run the furnace fan continuously at low speed

Increase ventilation:

- use the kitchen exhaust fan while cooking and the bathroom exhaust fan while bathing; these fans should be vented to the outdoors
- Cracking open a window or door daily to air out your house

Improve windows:

- install storm windows;
- replace windows with ENERGY STAR® certified units