

Consumer Tip

TO KEEP WINDOWS CONDENSATION FREE

Over the past thirty years continual improvements have been made in insulating and air sealing homes. As a result, there are fewer air changes and an increased level of relative humidity inside our homes. During the winter, high humidity levels inside our homes often results in water condensing on the cold windowpane.

There are two methods of remedying this problem. Install new windows that are more energy efficient than your existing windows or reduce the relative humidity inside your house by increasing ventilation (allow dryer outside air to enter through a slightly opened window or install a heat recovery ventilation unit.)

WARM THE GLAZING: (GIVEN AN OUTSIDE TEMP of -20°Celsius.)

Glazing Type	Condensation Resistance
Double Glass	26%
Double Glass, with Low E and Argon Gas (Window Wise™ Approved Window*)	40%

Warm the glazing: better quality windows have a better R rating and better condensation resistance. The chart above compares a standard double glazed window with a higher quality window that has an insul-glass unit with Low E and Inert Gas.

LOWER THE HUMIDITY:

Outdoor Temperature	Relative Humidity with Standard Window	Relative Humidity with Window Wise™* Minimum
0 °C	50%	63%
-10 °C	38%	50%
-15 °C	32%	45%
-20 °C	26%	40%

Lower the Relative Humidity: Cooking, washing and bathing are the major sources of water vapour in our homes. Reducing these activities will lower relative humidity. However, if this is not possible then exhausting humid inside air and replacing it with drier outside air is the only option.



* The Window Wise National Certification Program sets minimum standards for windows and installation methods.

For more information contact 1-800-813-9616