



Getting your home Autumn ready

Colder weather, darker nights and trees losing their leaves, is normally a sign the Summer is over and Autumn is beginning. We've put together a few hints and tips about how to protect your home during the colder months.

In the home

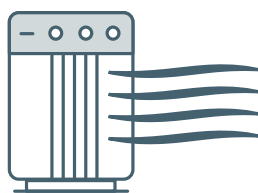
Condensation, damp and mould

- Check the ventilation in your home – do you have air bricks or dehumidifiers? These can help with excess moisture in the home
- It's a good idea to open windows when cooking (and also use lids on your pans) and showering to remove any excess steam or vapours
- Fitting roof ventilation tiles and window vents at the top of windows may help to reduce condensation
- Extractor fans – do you have them in your kitchen or bathroom?
- Consider a heat recovery system that may help



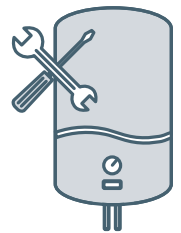
Draughtproofing and insulation

- Use weather stripping or caulk to seal gaps and draughts
- Use letterbox covers to reduce door draughts
- Does your Insulation need improving in your walls/loft/home? Insulation can help to moderate the temperature in your home, contact a professional for help
- Do any of your doors or windows need replacing?
- Consider a heat recovery system that may help to keep your home ventilated



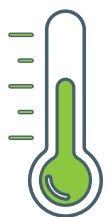
Boilers and pipes

- Get your boiler serviced by a registered gas safe engineer or OFTEC registered engineer, if you have oil fired heating
- Bleed the radiators – this lets out any trapped air, which can stop water from circulating
- Lag water pipes with ready-made lagging
- Open your loft hatch occasionally, allowing warm air to circulate your pipes



Other things to consider

- If you have a working fireplace – get an inspection by a professional to check for any blockages or functioning issues
- Think about keeping your heating on a constant low heat when you're out, this may help to prevent pipes freezing and your boiler using more energy



Always be cautious when undertaking any DIY task that you aren't familiar with, seek professional help where needed.