



# Three Moisture Mechanisms

British Standards identify three distinct ways moisture affects buildings. Each requires different diagnosis and treatment.

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# Understanding Each Mechanism

## Condensation

Moisture in the air forming on cold surfaces (BS 5250).

## Hygroscopic Moisture

Materials absorbing moisture due to salts (BRE Digest 245).

## Ingress

Liquid water entering through defects (BS 6576).



DENSATION  
MOISTURE



HYGROSCOPIC  
MOISTURE



INGRESS  
MOISTURE

# Why Accurate Diagnosis Matters

Each mechanism requires a different solution. Condensation needs ventilation. Hygroscopic moisture needs salt removal. Ingress needs building repairs.

Misdiagnosis leads to ineffective treatment and wasted resources.

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