

Why Does That Damp Patch Move?

It might not be a leak. The behaviour of damp often points to Condensation (BS 5250).

If a damp patch migrates or changes shape without rainfall, you are likely witnessing a shift in the **Dew Point**. As surface temperatures fluctuate across a wall, moisture condenses on the coldest points.



Cold Surfaces

Moisture targets the coldest spots (thermal bridges).



Vapour Pressure

High internal humidity seeks equilibrium on cool walls.

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The Invisible Culprit: Hygroscopic Salts

According to **BRE Digest 245**, contamination from salts can mimic structural damp. This is common in chimney breasts where soot contains sulphates.



Salt Contamination

Old flue gases deposit salts into the masonry and plaster.



Absorption

These salts are **hygroscopic**—they absorb moisture directly from the air.



The Illusion

The patch appears on humid days, unrelated to actual rainfall.

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Is It Water Ingress?

Following **BS 5250** and **BS 6576** principles, true penetrating damp correlates directly with external conditions. Unlike salts or condensation, this requires a physical defect.



- Defective pointing or render
- Blocked gutters or downpipes
- Bridged cavities

 Need a Diagnosis?

Don't guess. Measure. Contact us for an independent survey.

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