

Attic Condensation Checklist

Customer I.D. # _____ Customer: _____ Date: _____ Technician _____

Roof Inspection

No leaks identified

Active leak/Needs repair work

Needs to be replaced

Visible leaks at chimneys, skylights and/or walls above roof planes? Yes No

Comments;

Attic Inspection

Readings taken _____

Attic inadequately ventilated? Yes No

Attic Fan without humidistat? Yes No NA If no, set at _____%

Insulation level? R _____ R38 recommended by the Department of Energy in Attic floors.

Is the vapor barrier missing under the insulation? Yes No

Baffles missing/Eaves blocked? Yes No

Attic access uninsulated? (Attic Tent or similar recommended) Yes No

Are any bathroom or dryer vents terminating in the attic space? Yes No

Comments;

Living Area Inspection

Readings taken _____

Bath, dryer and kitchen fans missing in the required rooms? Yes No
Fans not routed out of the home? Yes No
Are they not being used every time? Yes No

Individual humidifiers, vaporizers or C-pap machines in use? Yes No

House plants, aquariums, fountains, hot tubs or water dishes present? Yes No

Clothes dried inside, floors shampooed or mopped frequently? Yes No

HVAC registers closed/obstructed? Yes No

Plumbing leaks present? Yes No

Comments;

Basement/Crawl Space Inspection

Readings taken _____

HVAC Humidifier in use? Yes No If yes, set at _____%

HVAC fan setting? AUTO ON NA

Damp or water issues present? Yes No

Comments;

Customer Signature _____

A Word of Caution about Humidifiers

We understand the benefits of having a humidifier in your home. They can help provide a comfortable living space when used correctly. There are some consequences from having too much of a “good thing” if that humidifier is turned up too high. Chances are if you are reading this you have experienced some condensation issues in your home.

One of the biggest contributors to home moisture issues we have found are overactive humidifiers. They can be hidden away in your basement pumping several gallons of water into your home daily. Most people do not realize the extent that this is happening until it's too late. Anytime you are experiencing condensation issues in your home we strongly recommended turning back (or off) your humidifier until the issue subsides. Have your home tested by a professional to see if you actually need a humidifier. Some homes do not need one as they are naturally above 40% relative humidity. Homes with ongoing moisture issues may even need a dehumidifier to control the issue.

Here is an example of a common humidifier on the market today - **Aprilaire Model 600**. This model has an evaporation capacity of .70 gallons per hour. This model running at full capacity is capable of putting **16.8 gallons** of water into your home per day. This humidifier is rated for a home up to 4,000 sq. ft. Many humidifiers on the market rated for a 2,000 sq. ft. home are capable of producing **12 gallons per day**. Turning up the dial on your humidifier by only 10% can be adding a couple extra gallons of water per day to the air in your home. We recommend small adjustments and to keep an eye on your windows and attic for condensation issues. At the first sign of issues, turn down your humidifier. A small increase can have a big impact on your home.



A good attic ventilation system is designed to accommodate 2-4 gallons of water that an average family generates daily by simply living in the home. As you can see from the results above, a whole home humidifier can produce amounts far greater than your attic ventilation system was ever designed to handle. Humidifiers can overwhelm attic fans, ridge vents, gable vents, etc. These products are simply not designed to handle that much moisture.

The University of Minnesota recommends keeping the relative humidity level inside your home under 40% as shown here. Humidifiers should be used when the heater is being run and turned off in the warm months when the air conditioning is being used. During an abnormally cold period your humidifier should be adjusted down accordingly.



We would like to see warning labels like this one below be put on the control units cautioning homeowners of turning their humidifier up too high. We understand that this may not fit every situation.



Consider it a starting point.

Every home is constructed differently and it may take some fine-tuning to see what works best in your home. We suggest starting at a dryer setting and slowly turning the dial up in small increments until you get to a point that works for your home. Remember to keep an eye on your attic, windows and exterior walls for signs of condensation especially during the cold winter months.