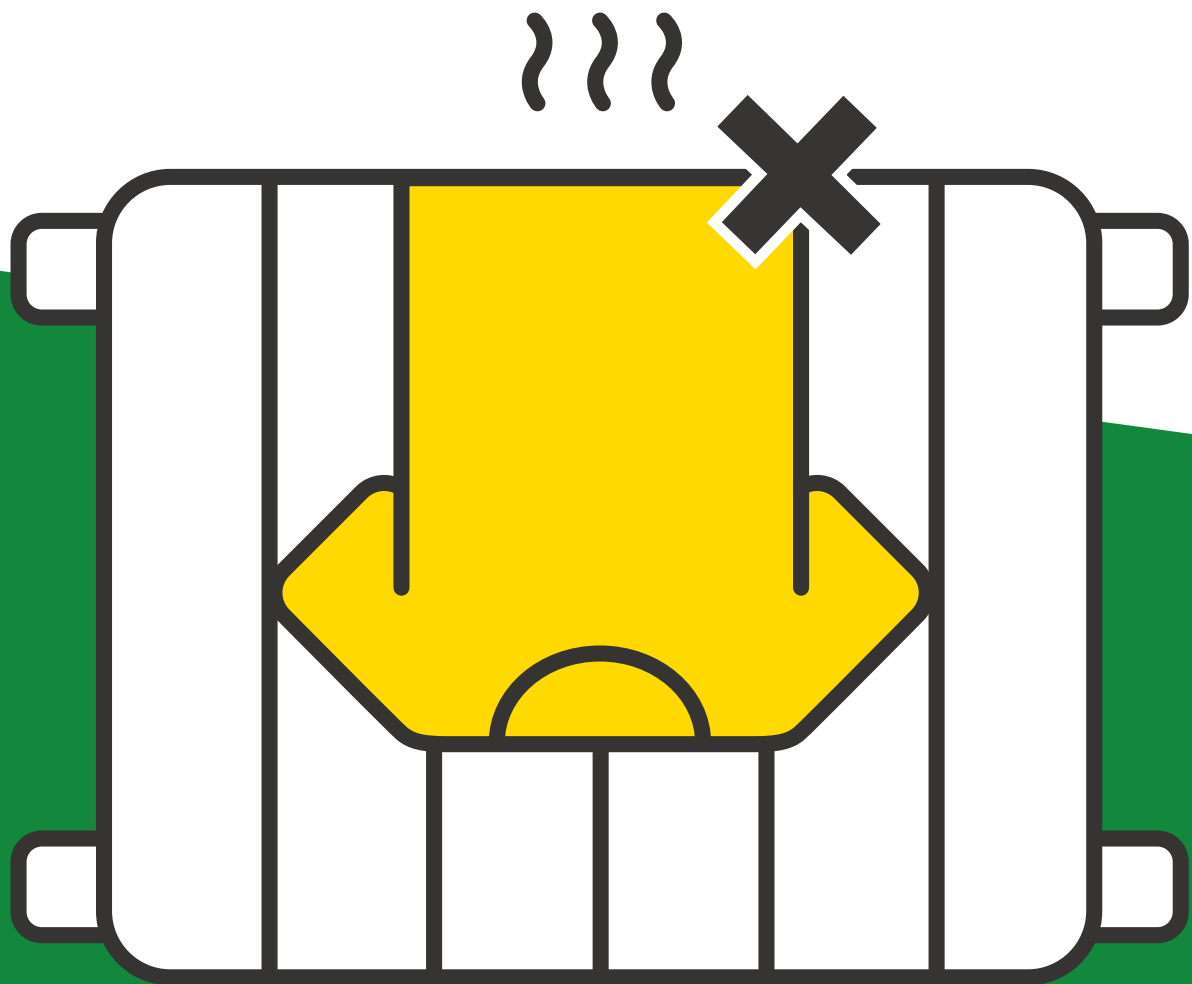


Drying your clothes and saving energy

TOP TIP

**KEEP WET CLOTHES
OFF YOUR RADIATORS**





Moist air costs more to heat

Heat from a radiator circulates arounds a room to keep it warm. Hot air naturally rises, carrying heat away from your walls and causing it to circulate throughout your home.

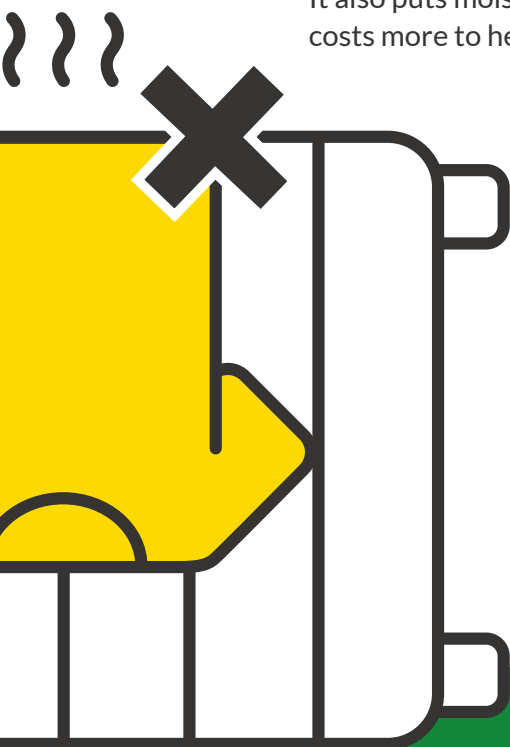
Drying clothes on a radiator gets in the way of that airflow, meaning it requires more energy to heat the room. Thus puts more pressure on your boiler and increases your energy bill.

It also puts moisture into the air as it evaporates from the drying clothes. Moist air costs more to heat and can cause other problems too.

This moisture increases the chance of condensation - the water that forms on your windows and walls. Repeated condensation over time can lead to damp and mould, which may mean people in the home are more likely to have respiratory problems, respiratory infections, allergies or asthma. Damp and mould can also affect the immune system.

It isn't good for the clothes themselves either as drying them on radiators can damage the fabric's fibres.

We know, though, that putting washing on radiators can become a bit of a habit. **Explore the alternatives and see what would work best for you.**



Alternatives for drying clothes

Rather than using a radiator to dry clothes, use alternative locations such as outdoors, or in a room where you can close the door and open a window, whilst drying the washing (ideally the bathroom).

Hanging clothes on **an outdoor washing line** is an excellent option, and it is free.

If you're unable to use a washing line but have access to an outdoor space, remember that **a clothes horse or drying rack** isn't just for indoor use. These can also be used outside or on a sheltered balcony – even in winter.

TOP TIP

Download a free weather app to your phone, or check the evening news update, to avoid having your drying ruined by the British weather!

Outdoor spaces are not possible for everyone though. When drying indoors we recommend using a clothes horse or drying rack if you're able to find a space. There are a range of space-saving options too, including **racks that hang over the bath and wall-mounted laundry ladders.**

Other alternatives to drying on radiators, such as tumble dryers, are notoriously expensive to run.

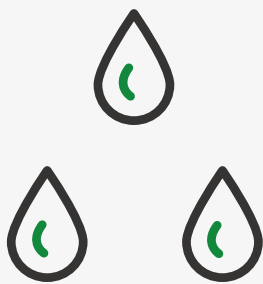
According to the Energy Saving Trust, drying clothes on racks inside or outside could **save up to £55 per year!*** So if you don't already have a drying rack in the house, purchasing one can pay for itself within a few months.

No one likes having their clothes smell damp and musty. It's one of the reasons people say they use radiators to dry clothes as quickly as possible.

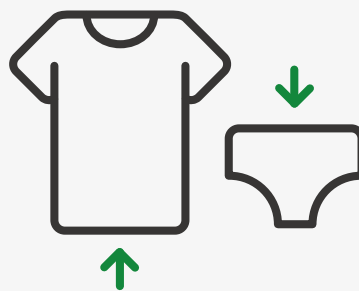
PLACE ONE OF
OUR STICKERS

ON THE
RADIATOR AS
A REMINDER

Rather than doing that, there are some simple cost-saving steps to follow to avoid that damp smell.



Remove as much moisture as you can before hanging them to dry. Use the highest spin cycle you can, and add an extra spin cycle if needed.



Use a clothes airer. Hang smaller items at the bottom and larger items at the top to maximise airflow. Don't overload your airer as it will take longer for clothes to dry.



Put dried clothes in an airing cupboard if you have one. The warmth from the water heater will finish the drying process off.

*Savings based on a typical three-bedroom semi-detached gas heated house, with an 88% efficient gas boiler and average gas tariff of 8p/kWh and electricity tariff of 30p/kWh. Emission savings include all scopes and greenhouse gases expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent. Correct as of October 2023.



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are designed to
help people save
money and stay
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Our Green Doctors
have identified helpful
impartial advice on
what can really make a
difference in reducing
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