



# Dry & Wet Rot Solutions

## The Problem

Both dry and wet rot can cause structural defects in buildings. Not only is it unsightly but it is also unhealthy.

It can grow at an alarming rate in certain conditions. Dry and wet rot are usually caused by dampness, running water, poor ventilation and bad maintenance or a combination of these conditions.

Dry rot is the most serious of all wood rotting fungi. For fungal decay to begin, it requires water to penetrate wood which then allows bacteria and micro fungi to colonise resulting in the partial breakdown of the cell structure.

The timber then becomes more porous and potentially wetter. If the moisture content is sustained above 30% then dry rot can colonize and germinate which inevitably leads to decay. As dry rot spores are

airborne this means that all properties are susceptible to attack given the right conditions.

Once germination is established the fungus can spread rapidly, even through thick masonry walls, in search of timber causing potentially widespread and extensive damage if not treated at the earliest instance.

Wet rot fungi, whilst generally not as destructive as dry rot, it can nevertheless cause severe damage if allowed to go unchecked and is a common cause of structural defects

## The Solution

Timberwise have over 5 decades of experience in the eradication of both dry and wet rot. Our fully trained and experienced surveyors will identify the type, and the extent, of any decay and will produce a suitable specification for the eradication of the problem. You will also have the peace of mind from a 20 year guarantee for the work carried out.

## Timberwise will

- ✓ Identify the nature, type and extent of the decay.
- ✓ Determine the cause, finding the source of moisture.
- ✓ Propose the cure with full specification and method statement.
- ✓ Advise what additional steps (if necessary) are required to safeguard the property.



## Technical Information

### Dry Rot (*Serpula lacrymans*)

- It is malignant growth.
- Dry rot requires moisture contents as little as 20%. It is also stimulated by a high relative humidity and a high PH value.
- The vast majority of the infection is often concealed.
- It is very often associated with poor ventilation.
- Often timbers that are some distance from the original source of the dampness are attacked.

### Wet Rot (*Coniophora puteana*)

- It only degrades wet timber that has a moisture content of above 30%.
- It is most commonly found in joist ends, skirting boards and external joinery.
- The fungus can develop and live in complete darkness.
- Wet rot will only grow where there is timber present.
- Timber suffering from wet rot will feel spongy (even through a coat of paint).



## Why use Timberwise?

- ✓ Professional competence.
- ✓ Approved by leading Architects/Surveyors.
- ✓ Long-term guarantees backed by the GPI.
- ✓ Fully insured for Public Liability and Professional Indemnity.
- ✓ Fast friendly local service nationwide.
- ✓ Speedy, efficient and competitive.
- ✓ Health & Safety approved products.
- ✓ Conscientious and tidy workmanship from trustworthy tradesmen.



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