

## GROUND MOISTURE BARRIER

also known as on-ground vapour barrier

Installing a ground moisture barrier is one of the best decisions you can make to improve the health and comfort of your home, without spending a great deal of money.

on average 250ml of water evaporates from each 1m<sup>2</sup> of ground in 24 hours – that's 60 litres a day for a 150m<sup>2</sup> house. This moisture getting into your home causes rot, mould, mildew and affecting health.

A great way to reduce moisture levels is to install a ground moisture barrier. This polythene sheeting will restrict the evaporation of moisture from the ground into the subfloor space.

Many Kiwi homes suffer from damp and mould.



Ventilation systems and dehumidifiers help fix the symptoms of the problems, but don't always tackle the cause itself. In many cases dampness is relatively cheap and easy to fix.

Ground moisture barriers put a cap on rising damp, lowering the moisture level in your home. This reduces condensation and mould, making the air fell more comfortable and the home easier to heat.

Installing a vapour barrier (thick polythene sheeting) on the ground under your house will keep the moisture in the ground and stops the air under the floor from getting damp.

Ground Moisture Barrier is 250 micron polythene sheeting that is at least 0.25 mm thick and covers the ground under a house.





For the vapour barrier to be effective, quality installation is key

- any leaks from water or waste pipes, wet areas, cladding and so on must be dealt with before the moisture barrier is laid
- check there is no surface water flowing under the building rain should drain away from the house
- the ground under the house should be shaped so no surface water accumulates on top of the vapour barrier
- the vapour barrier should completely cover the soil & be butted up to surrounding foundation walls and piles





