

A Two-Stage Approach to Damp Investigation in One Bedroom Residential Building in Aundh, Pune

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Abstract: *Rising damp is widely referred to in Victorian literature and the Public Health Act of 1875 introduced the requirement for a damp-proof course in walls to prevent rising damp. An entry in the British Medical Journal from 1872 describes the phenomenon of rising damp as "Next we look, but in vain, for any signs of a damp proof course, or for any gratings to show that ventilation to the ground floor joists has not been forgotten. The results of the first two defects are visible enough in the house as it now exists, in the damp and green stains which are everywhere to be seen from the level of the ground to some two or three feet up the walls." Helps To Health, Sir Henry Burdett (1885). Even if the rising damp be arrested by what is technically called an impervious damp-proof course, it will be frequently found that this is built in the wall too near the ground line, so that the heavy rain bespatters the ground and splashes above it. As time rolls on the surface of the ground also becomes elevated, and this damp course is soon lost to sight. Attempts have been made to remedy this evil of porous bricks by the substitution of the hard blue bricks of Staffordshire; and then it may often be noticed that the wet has only struck, sailor-like, across the mortar-joints and cheque the inside walls like a tartan plaid. There's no permanent solution for dampness, it's every remedy is temporary but can last longer if done properly or chosen an adequate solution depending on the site, location & the reason behind it, proper maintenance is needed & it's mandatory to keep an eye on it after certain intervals to be associated with the condition & a note that every time the maintenance cost may differ depending on the issue, site, raw-materials & their availability, or the product cost depending on the method. The cost for DPC, Surface treatment & Water-proofing is estimated depending upon the coverage area of wherever it is to be done. Most economical way is water-proofing, it's not a prevail way amongst these methods. Best method for weather treatment or solution for aftermath of dampness is DPC. But if the catchment area is higher, one should go for DPC itself. Whereas Surface treatment is lowkey, a liability.*

Keywords: Dampness, Residential Buildings, Walls, Moisture Content, etc.

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