



## Should I Be Concerned About Condensation Inside My Fog Light Assembly?



The quick answer to this questions is no. Condensation buildup inside a fog light assembly is normal, and it occurs for a number of reasons. First, vents along the top and bottom of the fog lights housing are necessary to equalize pressure differences that would otherwise cause the entire assembly to crack and fail. Hot fog light bulbs create high pressures inside the fog lights assembly, and temperature differences only increase as lens cover surfaces cool from direct airflow contact at speed.

Condensation does not mean that a fog light assembly is defective, and the presence of fogging or misting due to condensation is not considered a valid reason for warranty replacement of the entire fog light assembly.



If water collects inside your fog light to the point where puddles form, odds are you've got a cracked fog light lens cover or assembly. This is a problem, and must be addressed.

After hot, pressurized air has worked its way out of the fog light through the vents, humidity can get drawn in from the outside. So, fog lights that have been on during hours of driving become fogged on the inside because their cool temperature creates a low-pressure area that actually draws moisture in. This condition is made worse by high outside humidity, and by colder outside temperatures during winter months.

Condensation inside the fog light assembly can also occur in other situations such as a car wash. And it can occur even when fog light bulbs are not turned on. For example, a car that's been driven in the daytime and parked can develop condensation as residual heat leaves the engine and warms the back side of the fog light assembly.

While most condensation in the fog light lens usually dissipates after approximately 20 minutes of driving with the low beams switched on, some small and insignificant areas of the lens may remain misted for a little longer. A normal amount of water condensation inside the fog light assembly will not affect the optical functions of the fog light in any way, and will not cause any parts or wiring to corrode. To minimize condensation buildup inside the fog light, make sure any dust boots or covers are on tightly. Also make sure

that the fog light vents are not blocked, which could prevent condensation from escaping.

If water collects inside your fog light to the point where puddles form, odds are you've got a crack in the light lens cover. Water can also leak in because of improper seals around dust boots where bulbs are inserted. If no cracks or holes are visible around the edges of the fog light, the problem could be the housing itself. If you can visibly locate a crack, it's best to repair it with [sealant](#).