

How to Prevent Pest Infestations *In Your Property*



Harvey Lets

Hi there,

Welcome to your new home!

In order to ensure you're able to fully enjoy it, you'll want to keep it as free of pests as possible. We're sure most of this will be obvious, but it never hurts to refresh your memory!

If you do suspect you have a pest infestation, let us know as soon as possible so we can begin to resolve it for you.

Which pests do you need to look out for?

Some of the pests that people in the UK commonly have trouble with include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fleas
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spiders
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cockroaches
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ants
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wasps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bedbugs

These pests will cause different problems and vary in terms of the threat to safety they pose depending on potential allergies or phobias. While foxes will probably just go through your bins and be too scared to come near you even if you go outside, a wasp nest could deliver some nasty stings if you disturb it.

Prevention

It's important that you do everything possible to prevent a pest infestation, both inside and outside the house.

Inside the Property

Food waste should be a key concern inside your home. Crumbs and general food debris around the kitchen or living room should be cleared up and any leftovers should be stored in an airtight container, so ants or dermestid beetles are not attracted to them. In terms of bins and food waste, the bin should always be closed or otherwise sealed. When it is full, remove the bin liner and take it to the food waste bin outside.

Cleaning should be something you do to maintain a hygienic home anyway, but if things aren't particularly clean, pests will breed easily. Make sure that kitchen counters, tables and floors are cleaned regularly to prevent crumbs and food building up. If there is clutter on bedroom floors and in living room, this should be cleared as regularly as possible because they provide hiding places and homes for pests. You should also ensure you vacuum regularly, not just to clean the floors and other surfaces but also to catch pests and their eggs.

Outside the Property

Given that pests will enter your home from the outside, it's important not to neglect areas like your garden and shrubbery when taking steps to prevent an infestation.

- If you're outside, use citronella candles to help keep mosquitoes and wasps away from your garden
- Wood piles and scraps can be a haven for beetles and termites, which you need to keep away from your home. Don't use wood mulch or chips in your garden if possible, and keep any woodpiles at least twenty feet from your home
- Keep any tree branches or bushes well trimmed to keep them away from the house, as they could provide routes inside for pests
- Use a bird feeder tray to catch fallen food, as this can attract rodents