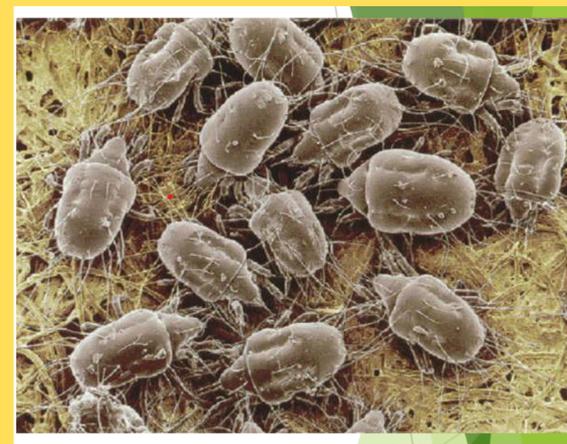


KEEP THE PESTS OUT

MAKE YOUR HOME LESS WELCOMING TO PESTS



- **Remove sources of food, water, and shelter.** Store food in sealed plastic or glass containers. Place food scraps in tightly covered trash cans. Remove waste and garbage regularly from your home. Store food for people and pets in sealed containers. Fit the garbage can with a tight lid. Fix water leaks, so pest don't have a water source.
- **Don't let water accumulate in your home.** Fix leaky plumbing. Don't let water collect in trays under your house plants or refrigerator. Put pet food and water away overnight. Keep the humidity relatively low – less water in the air can reduce mold and other pests.
- **Clutter provides places for pests** to breed and hide and makes it hard to get rid of them. Get rid of things like stacks of newspapers, magazines, or cardboard. A little clutter may not attract pests, but it does give them places to hide.
- **Close up the entrances and exits.** Closing up your house is one of the best ways to keep pests out. The hard part is finding those entrance points. Check near windows, doors, and piping for small holes or cracks where pests can enter. For example, caulk cracks and crevices around cabinets or baseboards. Use copper or stainless-steel mesh and fill holes, gaps, and spaces around pipes. Cover any larger holes with wire mesh.
- **Check items coming into your home:** used furniture, rugs, and clothing can bring in pest hitchhikers. Check for pests in packages or boxes before carrying them into your home.
- **Vacuum carpets and rugs regularly.** Regular vacuuming can clean up any crumbs (food!), bugs, and eggs that you may not see.
- **Use a dryer with clothing and bedding.** High heat can kill eggs, larvae, and bugs.



HOME PEST CONTROL METHODS THAT WORK: KEEP THE PETS OUT WITH THESE PROVEN TIPS



INSECT CONTROL:



Boric Acid: Look for Hot Shot MaxAttrax Roach Powder With Boric Acid. Boric acid is a white or colorless powder that is used as an insecticide, herbicide, or fungicide. It is safe for use around pets and children with sensible cautions. As an insecticide, it is effective in killing cockroaches, ants, silverfish, termites, and fleas. The insects walk through the powder. When they clean themselves later, they ingest the powder. After about a week to 10 days, insects die of dehydration or starvation. Boric acid doesn't act immediately, but it's very effective.

Use and Toxicity

Sprinkle boric acid on carpets, in unexposed furniture crevices, or along floorboards where insects travel. The powder can irritate your eyes and skin and should not be ingested by people or pets, so take care when handling the powder. Don't use it around pet food dishes, and keep children and pets out of the room while the powder is applied.

Diatomaceous Earth: Look for Hot Shot Bed Bug Killer With Diatomaceous Earth. It's non-toxic to humans. Diatomaceous earth is not poisonous. It is safe for use around pets and children with sensible cautions. It works because it is abrasive and drying to insects on contact. The bugs don't eat it, but they walk through it. The insect dries out and dies. It controls cockroaches, silverfish, ants, fleas, ticks, bed bugs, crickets, spiders, and other pests.

Use and Toxicity

It's best to wear a mask to avoid breathing the powder. Inhaling too much of it can irritate your throat. Places to apply diatomaceous earth are around the base of your kitchen cabinets, behind the washer and dryer, or around the perimeter of your garage. You can also sprinkle diatomaceous earth on your carpets, leave it overnight, then vacuum it — and any dead bugs — up in the morning. The same goes for upholstered furniture and mattresses.

RODENT CONTROL: KEEP MICE AND RATS OUT

- **Seal entry holes** with caulk or spray foam, and either stainless-steel or copper mesh. Use the stainless or copper kitchen scrubbers and cut to fit in holes. The rodents can't gnaw through it. Close larger holes with screening.
- **Keep food in closed containers.** Your local discount store is a good source for containers.
- **Remove rodent hiding places.** Clean out closets, basements, or other areas where rodents can nest or hide. Keep areas near house free of clutter and debris so rodents don't have an entryway into your home.