

GERMAN COCKROACH INFORMATION & TREATMENT PREPARATION

What you need to know about cockroaches

- The German cockroach is by far the most common and important roach encountered in residential and commercial settings
- German cockroaches are about 5/8" in length, brown in color, with two dark longitudinal stripes on their back, just behind the head
- Cockroaches can be found throughout buildings but generally prefer warm, humid places
- German cockroaches are most prevalent in kitchens and bathrooms, but infestations can occur anywhere there's food and water
- Cockroaches spend approximately 75% of their time hiding in cracks & crevices
- Females carry egg capsules that may contain as many as 40 individual eggs inside and may have as many as 4 - 6 generations per year
- Cockroaches are generally more active at night, though they may feed during daylight hours if certain conditions exist
- German cockroaches will feed on a wide variety of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats



Health significance of cockroaches

- Cockroaches contaminate foods, utensils, and food prep areas with their feces
- Cockroaches mechanically transmit a number of human pathogens including salmonella, staphylococcus, and streptococcus
- Inhaled or ingested cockroach allergens has been shown to trigger asthma in children, elderly, and genetically predisposed persons
- Cockroaches are generally associated with unsanitary conditions
- Because of their high reproductive potential and short developmental (maturation) time, German cockroach infestations can develop at very quickly

Where cockroaches come from

- German cockroaches are generally introduced to buildings via infested items carried in to the building. Cockroaches can also come from sewers, adjacent buildings, and even outdoors (especially where trash is kept).
- German cockroaches are common in items such as large and small appliances, paper products (boxes), food stuffs, TV's, etc.
- In commercial settings, cockroaches are often introduced via incoming food inventories that come from other infested operations
- Cockroaches can live in homes, grocery stores, warehouses, offices buildings, food establishments, schools, hospitals, and virtually any other place where food, water, and shelter is available.

How to prepare for treatment

- Cabinets in the kitchen and bathrooms must be emptied completely. These items may be placed on a kitchen table or stowed in the living room
- Sanitation, now more than ever, is critical. Especially during the next 2–3 weeks, do not allow pet foods, cookies, chips, leftovers, etc., to remain out in the open when not in use. REMEMBER: Just a smear of food resin can support populations of cockroaches for weeks
- Moisture is an important ingredient that roaches need to survive. In the weeks following the treatment, try to eliminate unnecessary damp or wet areas. Do not allow puddles of water to sit on countertops, in sinks, or on floors outside bathtubs and showers.

After the treatment

- This treatment employs the use of insecticidal baits. Baits take time to work, and require patience. Generally, improvement of the situation is apparent in 10–14 days.
- The use of baits is a significantly better method to eliminate cockroaches than the old-fashioned sprays & fogs.
- In addition to baits, monitoring “sticky” traps will be used to measure post-treatment cockroach activity.
- DO NOT remove the monitoring “sticky” traps. If you observe a misplaced trap, or one has fallen from where it was placed, please contact us.
- Baits are placed in minute amounts in cracks & crevices in cabinets, around countertops, behind refrigerators & stoves, pantries, etc.. Please avoid washing cracks & crevices in these areas.

About the treatment

- You have the right to know what products are used in your home as part of the treatment. Please don't hesitate to contact us at anytime for Material Safety Data Sheets and labels
- It is not necessary to vacate your home during treatment, though we do request that children and pets be vacated during the actual treatment
- Treatments take time to work, but best results become apparent in 10–14 days
- If you have a lot of clutter in your home, it will complicate the treatment and delay results. It is strongly recommended that unnecessary items be eliminated from your home and the building.
- Potentially infested items in your home should be discarded from the building in a manner that prevents spreading the problem elsewhere in the building
- Where infestation levels are high, follow-up treatments or inspections may be necessary. If this is the case, we will of course notify you in advance. Additional preparations may be necessary.

REST ASSURED, WE'RE THE BEST AT WHAT WE DO & WE TRULY CARE ABOUT YOU.