

Getting Rid of Cockroaches is Everyone's Business.

Cockroaches are omnivores, they will eat almost anything! Although they can survive several months without food, roaches will eat anything that has nutritional value. They are especially attracted to starch, sugar, grease (fat), meat and cheese. Decaying food items are particularly delicious for a hungry roach in search of his next meal.

Cockroaches carry bacteria that can contaminate your food and make you sick! Cockroaches can contaminate food with their excrement and saliva which contains bacteria that can cause food poisoning, diarrhea, and Staphylococcus infections. Cockroaches are closely related to poor sanitary and housekeeping conditions.

Getting rid of roaches includes a treatment process, but also includes a critical sanitation and preparation component.

Sanitation and Preparation

Sanitation is definitely one of the most important steps to getting rid of roaches, and preventing them. Most cockroaches treatment programs will fail if these steps are overlooked or poorly implemented. You must eliminate what attracts cockroaches, including as many food sources and water sources as possible and also seal off or eliminate places that cockroaches like to hide.

1. Eliminate Food Sources:

Getting rid of food sources is one of the most important parts of cockroach control. Sanitation of your kitchen and other areas of your home require dedication and hard work, but are necessary for a cockroach-free living space.

- Cockroaches in your kitchen can live off grease and food spills under and behind your appliances. Clean under and behind the stove, refrigerator, microwave, toaster, dishwasher, and around and underneath the sink.
- Crumbs and food spills from stored food products provide a buffet for cockroaches. Clean to eliminate this food source.
- Cockroaches are small enough to get into the cardboard packaging or loosely closed boxes and bags. Store food in metal, glass, or hard plastic sealable containers.
- Keeping all food and eating in one area of the home will eliminate crumbs and food spills and limits your infestation to one area of the house.
- Cockroaches come out to feed at night, so cleaning the kitchen each night will leave nothing for foraging roaches to eat. Wipe down kitchen countertops, wash all dishes, clean floors well, and put away all food.
- Picking up stray crumbs and cockroach feces, skins, body parts, and egg sacs, which contain pheromones that attract other roaches to the same areas, will help keep your home clean.
- Empty pet food containers overnight, or cover tightly.
- Keep garbage cans clean and covered.
- Do not allow trash to accumulate in your home.
- Trash rooms should be clean and neat. Do not leave trash bags sitting on floors in the trash room or the hallways. Please contact the building manager if you observe any improper storage of trash.

2. Eliminate Water Sources:

Water is another thing you will have to keep away from cockroaches. While it is difficult to get rid of all water sources, eliminate as many as possible.

- Have leaky plumbing and sweating pipes repaired.
- Before bed, dry all sinks, tubs, and showers completely and plug the drains.
- Place wet dishrags and sponges in an airtight plastic storage bag overnight, place them directly in the washing machine, or hang outdoors to dry.
- Pet water dishes should be put away overnight and refilled in the morning.

3. Harborage Reduction / Elimination:

Cockroaches hide during daylight and prefer dark, small spaces. By eliminating potential hiding spots, such as cluttered cabinets and closets, roaches will be forced to be out in the open to find a new place to live. If your home has excess clutter, discard of unwanted items to reduce places for cockroaches to hide.

4. Preparation for Treatment:

We employ the services of Ecologic Entomology, a pest control company. In order for their treatments to be successful, it is essential that all the sanitation and housekeeping guidelines above be followed. Treatments will never be as effective as they could be unless households in the building are kept clean and sanitary. Prior to treatment, Ecologic provides a "Preparation Instruction Sheet" that explains how to prepare for treatment. It is essential to prepare exactly as instructed in order to obtain the very best results. Follow-up treatments may be necessary.

Ridding the building of cockroaches is everyones job. Please do your part and we'll take care of the rest!

Thank you.