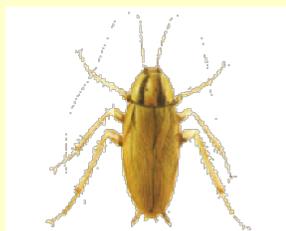


### Pest Control of Cockroaches



**Australian Cockroach**



**German Cockroach**



**American Cockroach**



**Oriental Cockroach**

**Cockroaches carry diseases** such as salmonella, dysentery, gastroenteritis and other stomach complaint organisms. Cockroaches adulterate food and spread pathogenic organisms with their faeces and defensive secretions.

**Asthmatic reactions:** Cockroaches must moult regularly throughout their life-cycle. The discarded skin becomes airborne and can cause severe asthmatic reactions, particularly to children, the elderly and people with bronchial ailments.

**The cockroach begins as an egg:** The female produces an egg sac which she carries or deposits in a safe place. The young cockroach or "nymph" will undergo a series of moults, shedding its external skeleton, as it grows to adulthood. The entire life cycle may extend to a few months depending on the species and environmental factors.

**Even the cleanest homes get'em:** Cockroaches and their eggs are spread via food items and other packaging. Although sanitation and hygiene are important deterrents, even the cleanest homes become infested with cockroaches due to minute deposits of grease, sugar and other food scraps in difficult to get at places, such as, in drains, behind

refrigerators and dishwashers, inside cracks and crevices in kitchen cupboards.

**Omnivorous by nature:** Cockroaches will eat almost any kind of organic matter. Once inside the home, they will seek out food scraps, unsealed food containers, sugar and grease deposits, pet food, rancid meat, glue and even book bindings. They even eat each others faeces, to feed the young "nymphs" and extract all nutrients from any organic food source. If you see a clump of pepper-like specs in your kitchen cupboards, it is likely cockroach faeces marking their courtship and nearby nesting territory.

**Nocturnal feeders:** Cockroaches rest during daylight hours in dark warm places in your home, such as, in wall cavities, the subfloor, roof void, cracks and crevices in the kitchen and pantry, bathroom, electrical appliances. They will emerge from these harborages in the still of the night. If you see cockroaches in your home during the day, you have a serious problem.

**Rapid breeding cycle:** If left unchecked a cockroach infestation can spread rapidly in a few weeks or months to become major risk to health and safety.

### Professional Pest Control of Cockroaches

**Modern science has the answer:** Professional pest controller has access to a range of cockroach baiting technologies. The modern cockroach baits are designed as a palatable food source for cockroaches that has a delayed lethal effect. The bait is readily transferred and fed to other cockroaches. The male cockroach is the primary food gatherer. The female eats his faeces as a food source and passes it onto the young nymphs, spreading the bait throughout the entire population.

**Safety first:** The cockroach baits are formulated as a gel and are of ultra low hazard to people, dogs, cats and other mammals. Applied as small

blobs in kitchen cupboards and other likely and observed cockroach habitat areas away from human contact, the gel-bait is highly attractive to cockroaches and provides effective control, usually for many months. The gel baits are highly effective against german cockroaches.

**Permethrin dust** application is recommended for use in wall cavities, roof voids and some subfloor areas. This dust has excellent floatation properties to enable it to be applied directly into such hard to get at areas where cockroaches congregate and breed. The Permethrin dust is modelled on the natural extract of pyrethrum plant and is less toxic than common salt to humans.

**A liquid insecticidal spray** is often required in some areas to gain effective control, such as interior skirting boards, sheds, garages, fencelines,

garbage refuse areas, around top of drains and immediate external perimeter of buildings.

### The cost of professional cockroach control

**The cost of professional pest control** for cockroaches using the above recommended insecticides, will depend upon several factors, including the size of the property, the extent of infestation and ease of access to treatment areas. Service warranties may vary depending upon the circumstances, condition of the premises and the risk of reinfestation.

**Commercial premises** food handling businesses, restaurants, function centres commercial offices,

factories and warehouses will need to be appraised and quoted for on a specific basis, and may require monthly servicing to retain effective control.

**Consumer note:** you may find cheaper prices for cockroach control in your local area, from companies using the **cheaper solvent based pesticides** in and around the home, which are NOT recommended, especially if residents suffer from asthma or bronchial ailments.

### What the home owner can do

**Inspection:** First, inspect the entire kitchen area, under sinks, refrigerator, dishwasher, stove, microwave oven, other cooking appliances, bathroom cabinets, draws, basement and subfloor crawlspace (if any) for likely high activity and harborage areas. Look for cockroaches, alive or dead, their faeces and egg sacs.

**Identification:** Place "sticky" glue traps in any likely high activity areas. At night sneak into the kitchen, turn on the lights and observe any cockroach activity. Observe where they scurry to. Place your sticky traps near these areas to collect and identify the species and the source of infestation.

**Food, shelter and water:** We all need it, so do cockroaches. Make your home unfit for cockroaches, where possible, take away their food, water and restrict shelter and access points into the kitchen and they will almost certainly move somewhere else.

**Starve them out:** Keep all food in sealed containers. Particularly at night, do not leave food

scraps exposed in the kitchen or waste storage areas. Thoroughly clean all benches and food preparation areas, particularly between counters and appliances. Regularly vacuum accessible and high activity areas such as carpets, drapes, furniture, kitchen and bathroom cupboards in order to remove cockroach eggs and food deposits.

**Cockroaches need water:** Cockroaches will thrive in damp subfloor crawl space areas, near leaking taps, etc. Ensure adequate drainage and ventilation. Regularly check and fix any plumbing problems, broken roof tiles, etc that may allow or cause moisture agress to potential cockroach harborage areas. Wipe kitchen sink of moisture before retiring or going out at night. Turn off leaking taps.

**Reduce shelter and access points:** Seal all cracks and crevices in bathroom, pantry and kitchen cupboards. Store all cardboard boxes and the like above ground level. Cockroaches do not like drafty exposed areas, nor bright lights. A good reason why some restaurants keep lights on at night around their dumpster waste bins.

**RING FUMAPEST ON 1300 241 500 • PEST CONTROL OF COCKROACHES**

Termites - Termite Control - Domestic Pest Control - Commercial Pest Control - Consumer Advice

FUMAPEST Termite & Pest Control © copyright 1995 - 2020