

How to Treat for Cockroaches

STERI-FAB – The infested areas should be sprayed thoroughly and repeatedly, directing the spray into all crevices, cracks, hiding places, seams, creases and folds.

Boric Acid – Apply liberally, scattering under and behind refrigerator, stove, sink, dishwasher, washing machine and dryer, tubs; into openings around drains, water pipes and electrical conduits, and in cracks and crevices along baseboards and corners of cabinets, cupboards, and closets. Remove all lower drawers in kitchen and bathroom cabinets, bedroom dressers and chest of drawers, then scatter liberally in drawer wells. Reapply as necessary. Any powder visible after application must be brushed into the cracks and crevices or removed. Apply only in areas inaccessible to children and pets. Read all product labels for complete instructions.

CATCHMASTER Glue Boards – Remove the protective sheet so the adhesive is exposed. Place the glue board, sticky side up in areas of activity, out of reach from children and pets. The glue board can also be folded into a square box, sticky side in, to protect the glue from falling objects and dust.

How to Treat for Bed Bugs

Bed bugs are parasites that typically feed on human blood. Female bed bugs can lay anywhere from one to five eggs per day and more than 200 eggs in their lifetime. They like to hide in cracks and crevices, in places like electrical outlets, behind wallpaper, between beds and base boards, and in the creases of mattresses. They can be transported into homes via furniture, luggage, clothing, bedding and even humans. Often times, people have bed bug issues after traveling and staying in hotels; even 5-star hotels. Bed bugs have complex reproductive cycles and it can take up to 30 days to wipe out an infestation.

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Use Boric Acid powder behind headboards, under night stands and beds, behind light switches, electrical outlets and plumbing voids (spaces where pipes come out of walls behind sinks). Holes can also be drilled walls and powder can be injected into the wall void by squeezing bottle with tip placed inside of hole.

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Remove any trash from your home and keep it nice and neat. Vacuum the infested areas/rooms thoroughly and often. You should use attachments to get into cracks and crevices and along all baseboards, paying special attention to the edges of the carpet. Also vacuum all around the bed, including headboard and footboard and along the edge of the bedding. Once you are finished vacuuming, dispose of the vacuum bag in a plastic bag that can be sealed. Since bed linens, blankets and other articles of clothing will not actually be treated with product, it is important to launder those items in hot water of at least 120°F.

It is also helpful to then dry the garments at a high temperature. This process can also include other personal items, such as stuffed animals and soft toys. If you do not wish to put these into the washing machine, then you can also vacuum the items and put them into a sealed plastic bag for several days. Other things you may want to bag are phones, radios, laptops or other items such as this that could possibly be infested. Sometimes, bed bugs can hide in very inconspicuous places. In order to find additional hiding spots, you may want to take apart bed frames, remove drawers from dressers and desks, and turn furniture over if possible. Look for small blood spots left by the bed bugs or small black spots, which are their eggs. It is sometimes helpful to stand up box springs and shine a flashlight through the fabric to expose any bugs. If there are any tears in this fabric, it is best to remove it altogether. To help control the movement of the bed bugs, it can be useful to caulk cracks, crevices and holes. This can include, but isn't limited to baseboards, molding, and areas where wires and/or pipes go through walls and floors. Read all product labels for complete instructions.

How to Treat for Fleas and Ticks

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Boric Acid – Apply product liberally on the carpet, adhering to restrictions. **Carpets** – Apply to dry surfaces only. Apply directly on carpets where pets frequently traffic or sleep. Work powder into fibers and mat with a broom or rug rake. Any powder visible after application must be brushed into carpet fibers or removed. **Upholstery** – Remove loose cushions. Apply along creases and into corners and furniture wells. Do not apply product to exposed fabric. Any product visible after application must be removed.

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While the products will have a great effect on the live fleas, it can be more difficult to control the hatching eggs. Because of this, retreatment will more than likely be necessary. Eggs hatch anywhere from two days to two weeks after they're laid. Female fleas can lay 500 or more eggs in their lifetime. Daily vacuuming is very helpful in the eradication of fleas. It is also recommended that you put a flea collar in the vacuum bag and empty it often. If this is not done, the eggs will hatch and the fleas will leave the vacuum, causing a reinfestation. You should also wash all bedding, clothing and removable furniture covers. Washing in hot water and then drying the articles on a high temperature makes this more effective. If you feel that your infestation came from your pet, it is imperative that you get it treated immediately by a veterinarian. Read all product labels for complete instructions.

How to Treat for Ants

There are many species of ants and effective treatments can be different even among different varieties of species. For the sake of simplicity we will divide the ants into little ants and big ants - little ants being those below a quarter of an inch- big ants being those larger than a quarter of an inch. For the smaller ants, try to locate exactly where they are coming out of the ground. They may be coming from a long ways away, or from under the home, but the most effective treatments will focus on exactly where the colony is located. For larger ants, also attempt to locate the colony. Larger black ants may be colonized inside the walls of your home. Most likely on the warmer - up to 100 degrees - side of the structure. Treatment will be most effective closest to the colony.

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SILVERFISH

Silverfish live in damp, dark area in households. Some of their food sources include starchy products, glue, cereal and flour. They have long life spans – the average is three years, but can be as long as eight years – and are hard to kill. A big reason for this is that they are nocturnal, so are almost never seen during the day. They typically hide in crevices around your home, including corners of shelves or cabinets, window openings, and below floorboards. Silverfish can live up to one year without consuming food and usually rarely die from a lack of it. They can damage wallpaper, books, food and wooden materials that are held together by glue. Silverfish usually leave behind holes or yellow stains after feeding on substances that contain protein, starch or glue. People can prevent silverfish infestations by keeping crevices, cracks and other dark areas free from moisture.

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LICE AND LOUSE EGGS

Although head lice are hard to find, you can see the nits if you look closely. They are most often found along the hairline at the back of the head and neck and behind the ears. Nits should not be confused with an accumulation of hair spray, hair gels or dandruff. Dandruff can be easily flicked off the hair; nits cannot because they are firmly attached to individual hairs. Anyone can get head lice. They are not a sign of being dirty. Most people don't know they are infested until they see the nits or lice. One sure sign of head lice is a constant itching of the scalp which is sometimes accompanied by infected scratch marks or what appears to be a rash. There are shampoos and hair treatments specifically designed to treat for lice. You can also coat your hair with mayonnaise, petroleum jelly or oil. These suffocate the lice and create an environment that is unfavorable to them.

Once the problem has been treated, you need to clean up around the house. You should wash your bedding and any recently worn clothing in hot water (above 130°F) and then dry it on the highest setting. If there are items that can't be washed, then they should be dry cleaned or sealed in a plastic bag for two weeks. Combs, brushes and other such items should be cleaned by soaking them in medicated shampoo or Lysol, or heating them in water at least 130°F for 10 minutes. The last thing is to clean floors, carpeted areas and furniture by vacuuming.

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SOW BUGS

Sow bugs or pill bugs, as they are sometimes called, eat mostly plant and animal debris. They may also feed on seedlings in greenhouses and gardens. They tend to move into homes during spring or fall, however they most commonly are found outside under rocks. They do not bite and they are harmless to humans. To control these, it is best to get a handle on the moisture in your home because they are susceptible to drying.

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CENTIPEDES

Centipedes feed on small insects and other arthropods. In the home, they are most commonly found in bathtubs or sinks. On occasion, a startled centipede may run toward a person, causing them to get the incorrect impression that the centipede is attacking. Only the largest species of centipede can bite through skin, so risk to humans is unlikely. To aid in the control of these, the best thing to do is to manage the moisture supplies in and around the home.

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FIREBRATS

Firebrats diets are high in sugar, protein, or starch, including cereals, moist wheat flour, starch in book bindings, and paper on which there is glue or paste. Firebrats can damage book bindings, wallpaper, paper goods and dry foods. They may eat holes in the wallpaper to get to the paste. To aid in the eradication of firebrats, one should regularly vacuum cracks and crevices with a narrow vacuum tip. It is also recommended that you contain food sources in tightly sealed containers.

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MITES

Mites are microscopic, and often go unnoticed; this helps make them among the most diverse and successful among all of the invertebrate groups. Many live without restraint in the soil or water, but there are also a large number of species that live as parasites on plants, animals, and even mold. Mites can cause several types of allergic diseases that can include hay fever, asthma and eczema and are known to aggravate atopic dermatitis. It is thought that inhalation of mites during sleep exposes the human body to some antigens that eventually induce hypersensitivity reaction. Dust mite allergens are thought to be among the heaviest dust allergens. Like most of the other types of allergy, treatment of mite allergy starts with avoidance. There is a strong body of evidence showing that avoidance should be helpful in patients with atopic dermatitis triggered by exposure to mites. Regular washing of mattresses and blankets with hot water can help with this.

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