

South Jersey Cockroach Exterminator Services

Same-Day Service* From A Truly Local, Family-Owned Cockroach Exterminator

- FREE Cockroach Inspection
- FREE Cockroach Call-Backs
- 100% Cockroach-Free Satisfaction Guarantee

*in select areas

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Why Choose TermiGuard as Your Cockroach Control Service?

A cockroach infestation is equal parts horrifying and hard to deal with, which is why TermiGuard is here for you! With our team of roach removal experts and top-of-the-line equipment, your cockroach problem will be gone quicker than you can say infestation. TermiGuard has been in the New Jersey extermination industry for a long time, and with our effortless results, it's easy to see why!

Not only can you get free call-backs and same-day service in most areas, but you can also get free inspections! Our company is local and family-owned, so you'll receive personalized service that many of these national conglomerates just can't provide. With 100% satisfaction guaranteed, who better to call than TermiGuard!

What are the Signs of Cockroaches?

Cockroaches are nocturnal and are notoriously hard to spot, so an infestation may not be obvious at first. However, there are clues that your home is infested that are detrimental to look for. These are the five key signs that your home is infested by cockroaches.

1. Finding a live cockroach

This one may seem fairly obvious, but seeing a cockroach is not as easy as you think. Cockroaches live in small spaces, preferring narrow crevices like behind fridges, under sinks, and in cabinets. Cockroaches tend to gather anywhere that's moist and dark. The best way to try to see one is to wait till dark and quickly flick on a light. They'll scurry away quickly, their movement allowing you to see them better.

2. Discovering a dead cockroach

If you find a dead cockroach, that is another good sign, but look carefully, as it may be one of their sheddings. They shed 8 times in their lifetime, and these sheddings will be hollow. These are not exactly indicators as to which type of cockroach is infesting your home, as sheddings tend to be smaller and a different color than the adult cockroach.

3. Finding cockroach feces in your home

Cockroach droppings typically look like small coffee grounds and pepper, occasionally being cylindrical. Although similar to mouse droppings, they're smaller and finer. Their droppings are found where they're most active, indicating the source of the infestation. They can also leave behind dark, irregular smudges.

4. A musty or oily smell

Areas infected by cockroaches have a particular musty scent caused by the pheromones left behind by their droppings. This musty smell attracts other cockroaches, and the worse the infestation, the worse the smell. It's an unpleasant, damp odor that can stick to any surface and sink deeply into your possessions. Like the droppings, it can be a sign as to where they are lurking, so use that to your advantage to find where they are hiding.

5. Finding egg capsules or casings.

Cockroach egg capsules are oval-shaped pods that are typically under two inches long. Each egg capsule can take about a month to hatch and can contain upwards of forty embryos, depending on the species. Most of the time, they're brown, but that can vary as well. Some species carry their eggs on their backs, so you may not spot those.

What Causes Roach Infestations?

There are many reasons that a cockroach can find its way into your home. For one, like all creatures, cockroaches crave shelter. They need places to hide, and the more cluttered your home is, the easier it is for them to hide. If you have a dark and moist room in your home, like a basement, your house may be very appealing to them. Most water sources that aren't properly turned off can draw them in as well.

If your home is cluttered, you run the risk of encouraging roaches, as they love any garbage they can find, especially leftover food. Dishes piled in the sink and food that has been left out are basically a summoning call for them. The same goes for trash that you may leave piled around.

Unfortunately, you can do everything right and still have cockroaches. If you live in an apartment or townhouse and share a wall with a neighbor who does any of the above things, your home is likely to be infested, too. If it isn't already, it's just a matter of when. At that point, it's best to call your landlord and hope they call an exterminator to spray the entire building.

Lifecycle of a Cockroach

There are three stages of a life all cockroaches go through: the egg stage, the nymph stage, and the adult stage. Cockroaches usually live up to 6 to 15 months, depending on moisture levels, temperature, and species.

The egg state is the first stage and the hardest to see. Cockroaches lay 10-50 eggs in warm, humid areas, often in secluded and small spaces. These places include under stoves, sinks, and pantries. The egg stage can last between 14 to 100 days, depending on the species.

However, higher temperatures usually cause them to develop faster. Considering that females can lay multiple cases, they tend to reproduce very quickly.

The next is the nymph stage. As they grow, they molt multiple times. Nymphs have soft, white bodies that will change to their species' main color as they develop (black/brown/gray). These are where their hollow shells come in. The nymph phase lasts about one to three months, but they can spread as many diseases as an adult cockroach.

After their final molt, they gain their full coloration and enter the adult stage, and start reproducing. This stage is the longest, and given their long lifespan, they have a very large window to reproduce and create a greater problem. They gain their wings in the later parts of the nymph stage and have them at this stage as well, allowing them to fly around and wreak havoc.

Most Common Types of Cockroaches

Four types of Cockroaches are the most common and easiest to recognize: The German cockroach, the American cockroach, the Oriental cockroach, and the Brown-Banded cockroach.

The American cockroach is typically what comes to mind when you think of a cockroach. It's the largest at two inches and a light shade of reddish brown, and most commonly found in lower-floor apartments in cities. They are also the ones most commonly seen in movies and on television.

The oriental cockroach, more commonly known as the water bug, is larger and almost black. The females of these don't have wings, and males only have short wings, so you won't see them flying much. Usually, they dwell in basements, especially after heavy rain pours.

The German cockroach and the Brown-banded cockroach are similar to each other as they're both dark brown and about the size of a penny. However, the German cockroach is mostly black with a stripe on its head, and the Brown-branded has rings of brown bands on its thorax. These can both be found in higher-up rooms like attics, as they don't have the same water needs as some of the others on this list.

The Dangers of Cockroaches

Cockroaches can be detrimental as they spread illness like E. coli and Salmonella, and can taint food and countertops just by walking across them. Although they can't bite you, they can scratch you with their legs, which could give you an infection.

They also leave behind an awful smell that can potentially cause gastrointestinal and respiratory diseases.

They can also trigger allergic and asthmatic reactions in those sensitive to cockroach antigens. These could be potentially deadly depending on the individual.

How Do I Get Rid of Roaches?

You can set out glue strips in areas where there may be spaces for cockroach activities, like under the fridge or in basements. These immobilize the cockroach and starve them, while having the added benefit of helping you find the cockroaches. After all, the more cockroaches stuck to it, the closer you are to the center of the infestation.

You can also use bait traps, which you can place in similar areas to the glue traps. The cockroaches will eat the bait, then die off and spread the poison to the other roaches, but you need to reapply the bait every 2-3 weeks.

You can also DIY boric acid balls to kill them if you want a more organic solution. Liquid concentrates can be used to deter them from getting further into your home if you notice your neighbors having a problem with them.

How Can I Prevent Roaches from the Start?

Cockroaches are attracted to anywhere that has shelter and food. Cut those out, you cut them out. To do this, you have to keep your home clean. Don't keep any garbage bags in the house, and make sure to keep your home spotless of garbage. Sweep and mop frequently and never leave out food or dishes in the sink.

Also, wipe up spills and crumbs immediately. You can never leave standing water, so make sure your pipes aren't leaky and dry your sink after using it. You can also eliminate hiding spaces and entry points by sealing up cracks between tiles and making sure there aren't any gaps in your door frames.

But, ultimately, cockroaches are hearty and can survive in a lot of environments. The only bulletproof solution is to hire a cockroach exterminator that practices preventative pest control. Contact us! We are standing by to make your life cockroach-free, guaranteed.