

Mice

*An informative
guide for
residents...*



The most common mouse found in buildings is the house mouse, weighing less than 25g. The fur colour varies between light brown and grey. Body length ranges between 60-90mm and the tail can add an additional 100mm. Mice have an acute sense of hearing to communicate, and are particularly sensitive to any sudden noise.

What are the signs of mice infestation?

Mice Droppings

Droppings are often black, rod shaped and 3-6mm long. Fresh droppings will be soft and moist. Each mouse can leave approximately 80 droppings per day. Common places to find mouse droppings are under the kitchen sink, around central heating boilers and in roof spaces.

Smear Marks

These are dark grey marks left on surfaces by repeated contact with oils in mouse fur.

Nests

Sometimes nests can be found indoors for example in lofts, under floorboards or in airing cupboards.

Gnawing

Mice gnaw continually on materials such as wood, carpets, paper, pipe cables and furniture. Check for damage to foodstuff in cupboards.

Why must mice be controlled?

In addition to the damage cause through gnawing, mice have been known to spread diseases such as salmonella and listeria, which can lead to food poisoning and stomach upsets.

How can I prevent mouse infestation?

You can take a number of precautions:

- Keep your home in good repair. Mice only need a gap the diameter of a pencil to gain entry
- Remove potential nesting sites by keeping yards and gardens clean and tidy, and by cutting back overgrown areas
- Seal gaps around heating and water pipes inside and outside
- Ventilation bricks and slots should already have a fine wire mesh incorporated. If this is worn, replace it externally with 3.15mm insect mesh
- Do not leave household waste where mice can get access to it. Close dustbins lids and composters and do not feed wild birds unless using a proper feeder - you may be feeding mice as well

Where do they live?

Mice live in nests that they build out of cloth, wool and paper. Nests are often built inside houses, in places such as roof spaces, under floors or in wall cavities, and wherever there is access to a good source of food, especially during the winter. Mice can squeeze through cracks as small as 5mm but mouse holes are normally 20-30mm in diameter. Mice are mainly active at night and can often be heard running about as they search for food.

Control Measures

There are two methods of control:

- Trapping
- Rodenticide (chemical treatment)

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- FREE treatment for dealing with rats & mice to domestic properties in Burnley
- FREE information and advice



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Contact:

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