

# **10 SIMPLE, EFFECTIVE WAYS TO KEEP MICE AND RATS OUT**

Rodents are not only a nuisance, but also a health hazard. They can carry diseases, contaminate food, damage property, and cause fires. That's why it is important to keep rodents away from your home. There are several steps you can take to prevent and control rodent infestations, such as sealing gaps and holes, removing clutter and food sources, setting traps and baits, and hiring a professional pest control service if needed. By following these tips, you can protect your home and family from the risks of rodents.

## Seal entry points

Check for cracks, gaps, and holes around your house, especially near windows, doors, and utility pipes. Seal them with caulk, steel wool, or other suitable materials. This will prevent rodents from entering your home.

## Keep indoor areas clean

Rodents are attracted to food sources and shelter. Maintain a clean kitchen and avoid leaving food uncovered or accessible. Regularly clean up spills, crumbs, and garbage.

## Store food properly

Keep all food, including pet food, in sealed containers made of metal or glass. Rodents can easily chew through plastic containers.

#### Dispose of garbage properly

Use sealed garbage bins and regularly dispose of trash. Keep outdoor garbage away from the house and ensure that bins have tight-fitting lids.

### Secure possible nesting areas

Remove clutter and potential hiding spots in basements, attics, and storage areas. Seal openings and gaps to prevent rodents from nesting.

#### **Trim trees and shrubs**

Keep trees and shrubs trimmed away from your house to prevent rodents from using branches as access points to your home.

## Maintain a tidy yard

Keep the yard well-maintained and free from debris, such as woodpiles or old furniture, where rodents can hide or nest.

# Install screens and caps

Use wire mesh screens on vents, chimneys, and other openings that could serve as entry points for rodents. Ensure all openings are covered with tight-fitting caps or screens.

## Keep the garage organized

Rodents often find their way into the garage. Store items in plastic bins instead of cardboard boxes, as rodents can easily chew through them. Avoid leaving the garage door open for extended periods.

### Inspect periodically

Regularly inspect your house and surroundings, especially during the winter months when rodents seek shelter. Look for signs of droppings, gnaw marks, or any other indications of rodent activity.

#### Seek professional help

If the rodent problem persists or becomes unmanageable, consider contacting 1st Pest Control for assistance. We can evaluate the situation and provide effective solutions to keep rodents away from your property.

