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In this blog, well show you some common bugs found in homes and why they end up there. We hope it helps you prevent and remove those unwanted pests living in your home rent-free. Is It Normal to Have Bugs in the House? In some senses, yes its normal to have bugs in the house. Small insects will be inside virtually every home on Earth. And its not always a bad thing to have bugs around your property! Some bugs contribute to positive health by spreading microbial diversity. However, if you are noticing big bugs or seeing them pop up in large amounts, that can obviously start affecting your day-to-day life. Thats when you have to say no more and take action to remove these bugs and learn how to best prevent them from coming back. Bugs and other home pests dont enter your home for no reason. Your home may attract pests due to food, shelter, or a place to nest. In order to avoid pests in the home, we recommend the following: Limit open food sources inside your house by keeping counters clear of crumbs, closing food containers, and cleaning dirty dishes Do not have standing water inside or around your house Fix leaky pipes Make sure to have screens on windows and doors Close off any cracks or unregulated entry points for pests Use chimney caps and door sweeps Maintain your yard and compost areas Store trash properly Schedule regular pest control maintenance Avoid damp firewood, cardboard boxes, and other enticing nesting material While some of these seem intuitive, most homeowners dont perform correct bug prevention methods until an issue arises. People often dont realize how easily pests can get into the home. Even exhaust fans, dryer vents, and small rips in window screens can allow pests into the home. Establishing the best pest prevention practices and regularly practicing them will keep you to front against any further action. Read More How Do I Prepare for Pest Control Treatment? There are many reasons why you may have common house insects appear throughout your home. Notice certain signs can help you recognize them and stop an even worse pest infestation in the making. Spiders and ladybugs are both significant predators of many of the common household bugs that will infest your home. While you might think of spiders as a pest, it is likely that there are bigger issues on the horizon if you dont take action soon. This typically indicates termites hitting their heads against the wall. By the time you have enough of them to hear these sounds, they have likely already established large colonies within your walls. Find out about pest control services immediately if you hear these tapping sounds repeatedly. Before youve got entire colonies burrowing in your walls, here are a couple of visible signs youve got termites present in your home. The mud tubes on your external walls are built to protect colonies of termites as they burrow further into your walls. If you see them on any walls in your home, this is an immediate sign of invasion. Additionally, if there are tiny wood-colored pellets around your home, these are termite droppings. Also known as frass, these are less nefarious on their own but a significant indicator that termites are at least exploring your house. Ants are one of the most common bugs in homes, and their presence is almost always related to food and water. Crumbs, open packages, and stagnant water are especially enticing to these scavengers. If the outside environment leaves them wanting food or water, they will nest around your home to take yours and bring it back to their colony. An anthill outside might be a sign of one growing inside your walls, which could be a big problem. Either way, you dont want the problem to escalate, so its time to take action when you see an anthill outside your home. Many insects and pests move along the same path to and from their nest and can leave clear marks, grease marks, or bite marks as they travel. Cockroaches will leave reddish-brown streaks, and while insect markings are not as easy to spot as rats, they will often leave marks on white walls, carpets, or appliances. Check for damage to plants and fabric, as bugs might lay egg sacs or feces on these as well. Published On: August 20, 2021 Updated On: April 4, 2023 From tiny pests that nibble through your furniture to unwelcome guests hiding in your bedding, common household insects can be more than just a nuisance. Many types of household pests not only invade your living space but can also cause structural damage, contaminate food, and even pose health risks. This guide explores some of the most common bugs in the house and how to identify them. We also give out top tips for dealing with each type of house bug. Ants are among the most common bugs in the house, and while many species are harmless, some can become problematic. Pharaoh ants, in particular, are notorious for their ability to infest homes. These tiny yellowish ants thrive in warm, humid environments and are known for contaminating food and spreading bacteria. Black garden ants, another common household insect, often invade kitchens in search of sugary treats. We can eradicate both types. Signs of an Ant Infestation: Trails of ants leading to food sources. Small piles of dirt near entry points or cracks in walls. Prevention Tips: Keep food stored in airtight containers. Seal cracks and crevices where ants might enter. Bed Bugs are small red/brown coloured insects that feed on human blood at night. These elusive pests hide in mattresses, bed frames, and even cracks in walls, making them difficult to spot until their bites appear. This common household insect often requires professional pest control. At Total Pest Control, we offer Bed Bug Heat Treatment services that do just that. Signs of a Bed Bug Infestation: Itchy, red bites on the skin often in lines or clusters. Blood stains or dark spots (fecal matter) on bedding or mattresses. Prevention Tips: Regularly inspect and vacuum mattresses and furniture. Wash bedding at high temperatures. Cockroaches are hardy insects that can quickly become a major household pest. Common species like the German cockroach or American cockroach can contaminate food and spread diseases. This type of house bug is particularly drawn to warm, damp environments such as kitchens and bathrooms. Read below for signs of an infestation and how to deal with them. Signs of a Cockroach Infestation: Foul odour caused by their droppings. Shed skin or egg cases near hiding spots. Prevention Tips: Keep surfaces clean and free of crumbs. Address leaks to remove moisture sources. Fleas are common household insect for pet owners, but they can also infest homes without animals, thriving in carpets, soft furnishings, and cracks in flooring. These tiny, wingless insects are highly mobile, jumping from one host to another or settling into upholstery and rugs where they lay eggs and multiply. Their bites can cause irritation for both humans and pets. Read our blog on 7 Signs of Fleas in the House & How To Avoid an Infestation for more information. Signs of a Flea Infestation: Frequent scratching in pets. Small red bites on your ankles or legs. Prevention Tips: Regularly treat pets with flea prevention products. Vacuum carpets and soft furnishings regularly. As previously mentioned, Pharaoh ants are particularly troublesome due to their resilience and ability to form multiple colonies. These tiny insects are a common bug in the house, often spreading bacteria and pathogens. Although home remedies can sometimes work, it is best to get in professional pest control services to eradicate them and prevent them from returning. Signs of a Pharaoh Ant Infestation: Tiny yellowish ants moving in lines. Preference for warm, moist areas like kitchens and bathrooms. Prevention Tips: Keep food sealed and stored. Seek professional pest control for effective treatment. Silverfish are small, silver-coloured insects which vaguely resemble a fish. These nocturnal bugs thrive in damp, dark areas like bathrooms, basements, and kitchens. They feed on starchy materials such as paper, glue, and fabrics, potentially damaging books and clothing. Although not the most common type of house bug, their presence can be particularly impactful. Signs of a Silverfish Infestation: Small holes in paper products or fabrics. Yellowish stains on stored items. Prevention Tips: Reduce humidity in your home with dehumidifiers. Store items like books and clothing in sealed containers. Woodworm refers to the larvae of wood-boring beetles that burrow into and feed on timber, damaging wooden furniture, beams, and floors. Their activity leaves small holes and powdery frass, and over time, can weaken the structural integrity of your home, leading to costly repairs if untreated. Read below to learn how to identify this common bug found in the home. Signs of a Woodworm Infestation: Tiny holes in wooden surfaces. Fine powder (frass) near infested wood. Prevention Tips: Treat wooden items with appropriate preservatives. Inspect furniture and floors for signs of infestation. Dealing with an insect infestation can be overwhelming, but you dont have to face it alone. At Total Pest Control, we specialise in identifying and eliminating all types of house bugs, including ants, bed bugs, cockroaches, and more. Our team of expert technicians provide tailored solutions to protect your home and family from pests, ensuring a bug-free environment. 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