



Mice: Prevention Tips

Known for destroying property and products – and their potential to spread disease-causing pathogens – mice can be a major liability that could impact your brand reputation and your bottom line. Help protect your business and reduce the likelihood of costly pest disruptions with these mice prevention tips.

Where you might see them

Mice prefer quiet, undisturbed areas, such as closets, storage areas, and wall voids. They pick natural trails to follow, such as girders, heating and electrical lines, and utility runs.

What you can do to help

Make note of any sightings or signs such as droppings, nesting materials, or gnaw marks. This will alert your pest control provider of potential hotspots.

Tips for prevention

- Be sure to install door sweeps on all exterior doors.
- Use rodent-proof materials such as hardware cloth, aluminum flashing, aluminum screening, or concrete to seal all exterior holes and openings.
- Place ¼-inch wire mesh screens over all exterior ventilation openings.
- Inspect roof areas and seal any gaps or openings around vents and HVAC units.
- Designate a food area and discourage employees from keeping food at desks.
- Clean food serving, prep, and storage areas regularly.
- Keep vegetation around buildings trimmed back, especially low, dense shrubs and tall grasses.
- Store firewood and unused equipment away from the building.
- Remove clutter, such as old boxes and equipment.
- Keep dumpsters and garbage bins tightly covered and away from the building.

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ID and biology

- **House mouse:** light brown to dark gray in color with a lighter underbelly; measures 5 to 8 inches long (from nose to tail); tail is the same length as its body; small eyes; large semi-hairy ears; pointed nose.
- **Deer mouse:** tan upper body with a white underbelly; 2 to 4 inches long (from nose to tail); tail is about the same length as its body; hind legs are more prominent than its forelegs.
- **White-footed mouse:** dusky brown upper body with a white belly and feet; up to 7 inches in length (from nose to tail); tail is significantly shorter than its body.
- Mice can climb, run, jump, and squeeze through a hole the size of a dime.

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