



## **Fact File - Cockroaches**

Cockroaches have lived alongside man for well over 300 million years. They have survived all natural disasters during this time - they are a hardy Insect and a survivor.

In New Zealand we find a number of cockroaches, usually two species in particular (1) the native cockroach, often referred to as the NZ Native Roach, and (2) the disease carrying variety namely *Blattella Germanica*.

Cockroaches are nocturnal and omnivore feeders. They can transmit diseases and bacteria pathogens such as salmonella. They can cause skin irritations and allergens and breathing difficulties.

The cockroach has a life cycle (egg, nymph, adult). The female can lay 5 to 30 egg sacs containing 12 to 40 eggs. You should avoid killing cockroaches by squashing them. When you squash female cockroaches they may drop their eggs, and the problem becomes worse. Cockroaches can start producing from six weeks of age, and they can live up to two years. The math is startling if control is not put in place.

### **How we treat cockroaches**

Your technician will assess cockroach activity to identify areas needing treatment.

This may involve application of a pesticide barrier around the outside of the building. A barrier treatment is then applied inside the building, along crawl areas such as skirting boards.

Electrical appliances also may be treated with an insecticide powder, while cockroach gel bait may be placed inside areas such as kitchen cupboards or pantries. Monitor traps may also be installed.

The treatment works on residual contact. The insect has to absorb the product by crawling over the product. The product then kills the insect by affecting the nervous system. Powder treatment works the same way, while gel bait is treated as a food source and ingested by the insect.

While you can visually check traps that have been put inside your property, you should not touch them. If there is no bait left, please contact your property owner/manager or call our office as you will need further treatment. If there are still live cockroaches in the traps after four weeks from your treatment date, then please contact our office or your property manager/owner.

We offer also offer chemical and chemical free cockroach treatments for commercial premises. Please talk to our office today for more information.



## Pre and Post Treatment Guide

It is important that your technician has easy and safe access to all entry points such as doorways, windows and skirting boards – these are the key areas for treatment. Before your technician arrives please make sure you:

- Clear any items from window sills and the floor (including from under beds and other furniture)
- Put personal items (e.g. clothing, toys) in cupboards or on a bed with a cover sheet
- Put personal toiletries (e.g. toothbrush, towels, toilet paper) in cupboards or cover them
- Put food and crockery away in cupboards (store food in airtight containers)
- Clean behind and under your whiteware appliances e.g. fridge, dishwasher and oven
- Wash walls and skirting boards.

Cleaning may remove the residual product leaving the treatment ineffective. We recommend that wash walls and skirting boards and water blast the outside of your property several days before the treatment.

### Do you have pets?

You must notify our office if there are pets on your property. If you have an 'inside' pet you must make alternative arrangements for your animal during the treatment and for at least four hours after the treatment. Reptile or fish tanks must be covered with oxygen supplies turned off.

### After your pest control treatment

- Do not enter the property for at least four hours after your pest control treatment
- Wipe down food preparation areas (but not walls)
- Wash any bedding/covers that were left out
- Do not touch any installed traps or bait
- Do not wash the product off surfaces.

### For to prevent further infestations

There is no such thing as an invisible barrier to stop pests from coming inside. We view pest control as a partnership between our qualified technicians and you, the property owner/tenant. Good sanitation and hygiene, together with an effective pest control programme can reduce infestation.

We also recommend that you:

- Clean your kitchen and food preparation areas every day
- Remove rubbish and food scraps every day – dispose of in sealed bags
- Clean behind the fridge and oven to prevent pests from breeding (at least every 1-3 months)
- Regularly clean kitchen cupboards that are used to store food (at least every 1-2 months)
- Always keep food stored in air tight containers (e.g. flour, rice, spices, pasta, fruit and vegetables)
- Clean pet food bowls after every use

### Our products

We offer a 100% guarantee on the professional service and application of our products. We use commercial pest control products that are approved by New Zealand's [Environmental Protection Agency](#). These products are designed to break down over a six to eight week period. The product has a manufacturer's guarantee of up to three months. To remain effective, the product must not be removed for the recommended life of the treatment (12 weeks). New Zealand has harsh UV light that may cause the product to break down earlier. More than one treatment may be required for ongoing control over the summer months.

**Your treatment has a set timeframe for effectiveness. If you have any questions or concerns within four weeks of your treatment date please contact us on T: 0800TOAJET | E [info@ajetservices.co.nz](mailto:info@ajetservices.co.nz).**