



Mice

How to identify a mouse

It is easy to confuse mice and rats, so please check to confirm which is which.

	Mouse	Rat
Photos courtesy of Killgerm Group Ltd		
Colour	Brown to grey, lighter underneath	Brown to grey-black
Size	Body 2 – 3 inches (5 – 7 cm) Tail 3 – 4 inches (7 – 10 cm) – the tail is longer than the body Ears – large	Body 5 – 6 inches (13 – 15 cm) Tail 4 – 5 inches (10 – 13 cm) – the tail is shorter than the body Ears – quite small
Droppings	Black Rice-grain size and shape	Black Baked-bean size Rugby-ball shape
Damage	Gnawing cables and woodwork, like skirting boards and doors	Gnawing cables and woodwork, like skirting boards and doors
Food	Will eat or move anything available in the open and in cupboards	Will eat anything available in the open and in cupboards
Sounds	Gnawing and scratching	Gnawing, scratching and squeaking
Active	At night	Usually at night

If you think you have found a rat rather than a mouse, see the [section on rats](#) for details

Treatment for mice

Phone 020 7364 5007, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, and we will make an appointment to visit you.

On the visit, we will leave poison bait.

We will make any follow-up appointments needed to make sure the home is clear of mice – this usually requires two further visits about two weeks apart.

See if you qualify for a [free service](#) or find out [how much we will charge](#)

Dealing with mice yourself

If you decide not to use our service or want to take action before your appointment, there are alternatives:

- You can buy poison bait from a pharmacy, hardware store or DIY shop. It is VERY IMPORTANT to read the label and follow the directions for the product.
- You can also buy spring traps to kill mice from DIY and hardware shops. You should always check traps at least once a day.
- Alternatively you can buy humane traps from the same places. You should always check traps at least once a day, and please remember to release captured mice well away from your or anyone else's home.
- We advise against glue-boards, which can be cruel and distressing, and also need to be checked at least twice a day.
- Please note that if you are aware of mice in the property it is not acceptable to do nothing, you MUST either treat yourself, or use a Pest Control company to treat for you.

Preventing mice coming into your home

- Close off access points, such as holes in walls, skirting boards, cupboards or floors.
- Keep food in secure containers.
- If you have left-overs after a meal or waste from preparing food (such as vegetable peelings), put them in the recycling or the bin immediately.