



# Roach Elimination

## Cockroaches

The first step in eliminating roaches is to determine whether you have a problem with German Roaches or Large Roaches. German Roaches are what many people would identify as "water bugs" (because of their fondness for moist areas) or "kitchen roaches" (because that is where most infestations begin.) They prefer a warm, moist environment (your kitchen and bathrooms) and love to hitch a ride from your grocery store, flea markets, day care center, even your friend's home! Large Roaches, or what some people refer to as Palmetto bugs and "flying roaches", prefer a cool damp area (sewers, septic tanks, cellars and basements, mulch, etc...) and usually wander in from outdoors. Once you identify your problem, we'll show you the solution!

### GERMAN ROACH ELIMINATION

**Clean-out Method:** The pesticides used in a clean-out will also exterminate many other pests in homes, restaurants or other businesses. A roach clean out is usually implemented in locations where there is a very large roach population or when the roaches in the area have been identified as a group of roaches that are resistant to insecticides.

Basically, the clean-out procedure involves:

- 1) **Residual pesticides:** Spraying baseboards, underneath and behind appliances and in other areas where roaches frequent gives you the long term control that you need.
- 2) **Crack & crevice work:** When dealing with a severe infestation, a residual pesticide alone will not exterminate the entire roach population. Using professional aerosols and/or dusts enables you to inject pesticides into the tiny areas where your target pests are hiding. This also helps to "flush out" pests, forcing them to enter areas you have treated with residual products.

### LARGE ROACH EXTERMINATION

There are several species of large roaches (including American Cockroach, Brownbanded Cockroach, Smoky Brown Roach, Oriental Roach) that are most often found outdoors but invade your home and become a major pest. They breed in any type of mulch (pine straw, bark, leaves), dead trees, wood piles or other organic material. Their harborage can also include sewers, landscape timbers, basements, driveway walls and attics.

Although they are not really a "large" roach, the Asian Cockroach is exterminated using the same basic roach control methods and products. For more about Asian

roaches (or small flying roaches,) go to our [Asian Cockroach article](#).  
To exterminate other large roaches, use the following control methods:

**Outside Spraying:** Using a good residual spray all the way around the house and one foot up the foundation wall. You should also apply the pesticide to entry points such as windows, doors, plumbing, vents and weep holes. Spraying harborage areas such as rain gutters, hollow trees, mulch, tool sheds and retainer walls will complete your outdoor spraying.

**Inside Spraying:** Spray the inside where you have seen the roaches, paying special attention to areas where there is water. This includes the refrigerator, air conditioner, dishwasher, freezer, garage, laundry room and all plumbing.

**Dusting:** Dusts products are used in areas where insects are *most* likely to hide but where pets and humans are *least* likely to come in contact. Using [Delta Dust](#) in voids where roaches may hide or travel is an excellent pest management tool, killing many pests in the areas where spraying is difficult or hard to reach. [Power dusting](#) attics and/or crawlspaces with [Delta Dust](#) provides control for up to two years.

**Baiting:** In sensitive areas where you prefer to avoid the use of contact pesticides