

Low Danger Pest Control Booklet for Communities



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UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNVESTIHI YASEKAPA - UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

This is a booklet to be used by communities for controlling pests without the use of chemicals. In this booklet, we present mixtures to aid pest control in the home. The focus is on methods that are cheap and effective. By using these cheap and effective methods, we hope it can reduce the use of street pesticides bought at informal markets and taxi ranks. This is because street pesticides are illegal, highly toxic and can lead to death if used in the home. These mixtures are not for eating purposes, and should be kept out of reach of children and pets at all times to avoid accidental contact.

The **Division of Environmental Health**, headed by Professor Hanna-Andrea Rother, produced this booklet for the City of Cape Town. The Division sits within the School of Public Health and Family Medicine at the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa. The booklet was produced in conjunction with UCT's Street Pesticide Reference Group members and Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital Poisons Information Centre.

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CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD



CHEC

Cape Higher Education Consortium



Several terms are used in the booklet.

Here are some examples of what they mean or are referring to.



Spray bottle: this is a container used to hold liquids so that they can be sprayed on many different surfaces using a trigger and nozzle. Classic spray bottles bought in markets generally look like the picture to the left. If these are too expensive, a homemade spray bottle can be made by piercing holes into the plastic cap of a cool-drink bottle. If you do this, remember to keep it out of reach of children who may think the bottle still contains cool-drink.



Bicarbonate of soda: some mixtures call for the use of bicarbonate of soda. This is an ingredient often used for baking. It is also known as “baking soda”, “sodium bicarbonate” or “bicarb”. Bicarbonate of soda looks like fine, white powder.



Vaseline: this is a brand of petroleum jelly-based products. It can be bought at many commercial stores. There are other brands of petroleum jelly-based products that would also work; see the pictures on the left.



Icing sugar: this is a product that is commonly used in baking and to ice cakes. It is finer than castor or normal sugar. You can buy it in many supermarkets.



Sellotape and duct tape: these are both forms of sticky tape. Sellotape is clear (picture on the left) whereas duct tape (picture on the right) is usually silver or black and stickier than the clear tape.



Eucalyptus leaves: these are also known as “Blue Gum” leaves and can be found throughout Cape Town in many green areas. These leaves form the active ingredient in eucalyptus oil.



Fine salt: you can buy either “coarse” or “fine” salt. Fine salt crystals are smaller than coarse salt crystals and dissolve quicker in water. Fine salt is also known as “table salt” or “iodated table salt”.



Basil leaves: these come from the herb called basil or “great basil”. Basil is commonly used in cooking.



Yeast: this is a fungus that is often used in cooking, like when making vetkoek. It is often used to make dough rise and expand.



Lemon juice: You can get lemon juice by squeezing lemons and collecting their juice.

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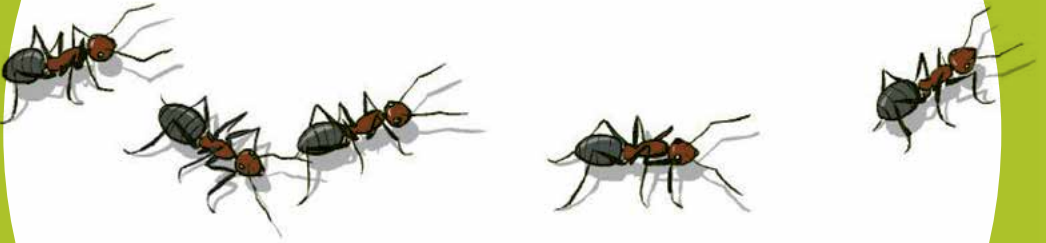
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ANTS



Ant-prevention Hygiene Tips:

The best way to control ants is through prevention!

There are several ways to stop ants from becoming a problem:

- ✓ See if it is possible to plug the places where ants are entering the house (e.g., fix holes, steel wool).
- ✓ Use lemon juice to wipe counters, inside cupboards, and potential holes that ants are entering through.
- ✓ Sprinkle windowsills or floor edges (which are out of reach of children) with cinnamon, cayenne pepper or chilli powder.
- ✓ Leave mint tea leaves or cloves in areas where ants are often found. These will need to be replaced when you can no longer smell them.
- ✓ Take a saucer or small plate and pour some water on it. Place a sugar bowl on the saucer (in the water) so ants become trapped on the saucer when they try to get to the sugar.
- ✓ Place the legs of beds in cans of water to prevent ants from climbing onto the beds while people are sleeping.
- ✓ If you can find the ant nest outside, make a hot-chilli solution:
 - o Put 2-4 sliced hot chillies into a one-litre jar and fill it with hot water;
 - o Soak for 24 hours;
 - o Remove the chillies and pour the mixture into the ant nest.

Ant Control: Mixture



House Black Ant



Garden Ant



Sugar Ant

ANT FACTS

Ants feed together, so many can be targeted at once. They also leave a “scent trail” so be sure to clean this trail away with the ants.

INGREDIENTS

1 cup Vinegar (any type)
1 cup Water
Chilli powder
(peppermint or cinnamon)

EQUIPMENT

Cup (any type)
Spray bottle
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This vinegar mixture is for killing ants and removing their scent trail.

You can make your own mixture to control ants by following these steps:



STEP 1

Mix one (1) cup of water with one (1) cup of vinegar. Chilli powder, peppermint or cinnamon can also be added to the mixture for extra strength.



STEP 2

Spray the mixture directly on the ants.



STEP 3

Wipe up the dead ants using a damp paper cloth. Throw the dead ants and the cloth into a rubbish bin with a lid.



STEP 4

Also spray the mixture on counters and windows to remove the ant ‘scent trail’.

Ant Control: Bait



House Black Ant



Garden Ant



Sugar Ant

ANT FACTS

Ants feed together, so many can be targeted at once. They also leave a “scent trail” so be sure to clean this trail away with the ants.

INGREDIENTS

10 teaspoons Jam
or syrup
1 teaspoon
Bicarbonate of soda

EQUIPMENT

Teaspoon
Damp paper cloth
Plastic lid

PURPOSE

This bait is for killing ants. **Place out of reach of children and pets.**



You can make your own mixture to control ants by following these steps:

STEP 1

Mix ten (10) teaspoons of jam or syrup with one (1) teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda. Mix well.



STEP 2

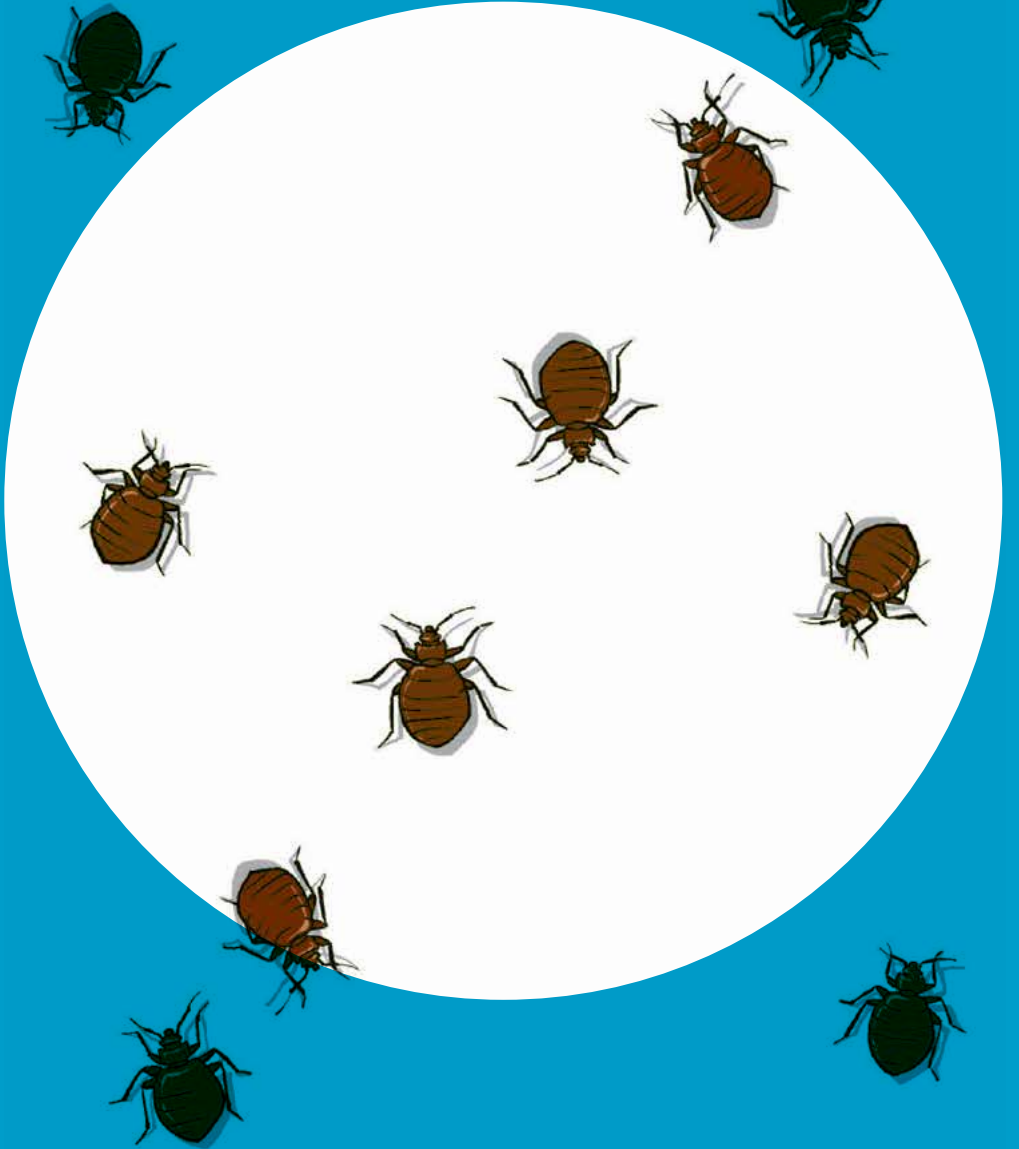
Place a few spoonfuls of the mixture on a plastic lid and place the lid near where you see ants. Replace the bait often as ants prefer fresh bait.



STEP 3

Wipe up the dead ants using a damp paper cloth. Throw the dead ants and the cloth into a rubbish bin with a lid.

BED BUGS



Bed Bug-prevention Tips:

Be aware that bed bugs travel easily from one place to another on you and your things! They will hide in suitcases, handbags, jackets, boxes or shoes, and come out at night to bite.

- ✓ Avoid picking up and using second-hand mattresses.
- ✓ If you do want to bring a second-hand mattress home, wrap it in black plastic and leave it in the hot sun all day before bringing into the house. This will kill the bed bugs.
- ✓ Cover your mattress with a zipped mattress cover that has no folds around the zipper where bed bugs can hide.
- ✓ Try to avoid using second-hand furniture with upholstery (cloth).
- ✓ If you want to bring home second-hand furniture:
 - o Place the furniture in the hot sun for three hours or more before taking it into the house. Put each piece of furniture in a dark plastic bag, if they fit, to reach the high temperatures.
 - o Rub the furniture with lavender or eucalyptus oil.
- ✓ If you travel away from home, always check the bed you sleep in for bed bugs.
- ✓ If you have brought luggage back and you may have stayed in a place with bed bug, place your luggage in the sun wrapped in a black bag all day. Vacuum or clean out the luggage thoroughly outside the house.
- ✓ If someone comes home with a bed-bug bite, check their clothes as bed bugs like to ride on these. Wash the clothes in hot water immediately.
- ✓ Put your clothes in sealed plastic bags when staying in hotels or at the homes of others.
- ✓ Clean up clutter. Remove clutter from walls where bed bugs hide.
- ✓ Check any second-hand items for bed bugs before you bring them home – even electronics , such as TVs, computers, lamps, washing machines.

Bed Bug Control: Mattress



Common Male and Female Bed Bugs

BED BUG FACTS

Bed bugs can live without food or water for a whole year.
Bed bugs like to travel and are good hitchhikers.

EQUIPMENT

Sunny outside area
Large plastic bag

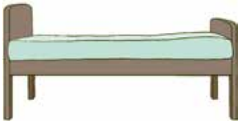
PURPOSE

To prevent bed-bug infestation.

You can control bed bugs by following these steps:

STEP 1

Find where the bed bugs are living; usually found on mattresses.



STEP 2

Wrap the mattress with bed bugs in plastic. Dark plastic is best. Completely seal the bag. [If you do not have plastic, you can first sprinkle the mattress with bicarbonate of soda.]



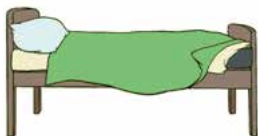
STEP 3

Place the mattress wrapped in plastic in the sun for 3-8 hours - the longer the better.



STEP 4

To prevent bed bugs getting onto your mattress again, leave the plastic on the mattress for one year. This is because that is how long bed bugs can survive with no food or water.



Bed Bug Control: Prevention



Common Male and Female Bed Bugs

BED BUG FACTS

Bed bugs can live without food or water for a whole year.

INGREDIENTS

Soap
Water
Vaseline
Hot water

EQUIPMENT

4 x cans (bigger
than the bed legs)

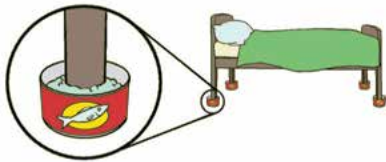
PURPOSE

To prevent bed-bug infestation. There are three different ways you can stop bed bugs from getting into your bed.

Community members can prevent bed bugs by following these steps:

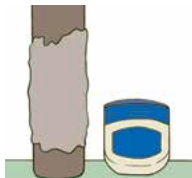
FIRST WAY

SOAPY WATER: Find four small cans. Mix some soap and water. Fill the four (4) cans half full with the mixture. Place the legs of your bed into each can.



SECOND WAY

VASELINE: Smear Vaseline onto the bed legs. Re-apply when there is no longer a thick layer.



THIRD WAY

BED POSITION AND HYGIENE: Keep your bed away from the wall to prevent bed bugs from climbing up. Regularly wash bedding in hot water.



Bed Bug Control: Trap and Bait



Common Male and Female Bed Bugs

BED BUG FACTS

Bed bugs can live without food or water for a whole year.

INGREDIENTS

1 cup of Sugar
1 litre of Water
½ teaspoon
Yeast

EQUIPMENT

2-litre bottle
Roll of paper towel
Tape
Scissors

PURPOSE

Bed bugs are attracted to carbon dioxide, a product of mixing yeast with sugar. This bait is used to keep bed bugs away.

You can make this trap and bait for bed bugs by following these steps:

STEP 1

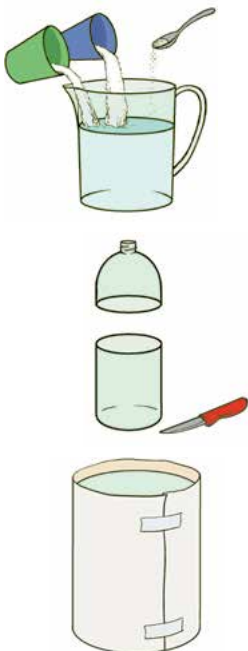
Mix one (1) cup of sugar to one (1) litre of warm water. After the sugar and warm water is mixed, add in ½ teaspoon of yeast. The mixture will begin to froth.

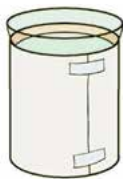
STEP 2

Take the 2-litre bottle and cut the top off along the top edge of the label.

STEP 3

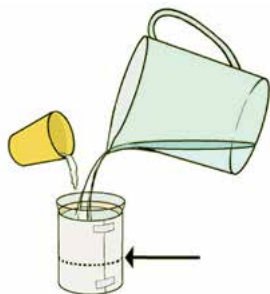
Tape paper towel to the bottle as this will give the bed bugs something to climb. Make sure the paper towel is taped evenly at the bottom of the bottle and cut the excess off the top. It is recommended to leave some of the paper towel hanging over.





STEP 4

Fold the top of the paper towel over and into the bottle. Take the top half of the bottle and invert it into the bottle.



STEP 5

Pour about a quarter (1/4) cup of sugar into the bottom of the bottle through the inverted top. Then take the yeast and sugar mixture from STEP 1 and pour about 8cm of the mixture on top of the sugar.

STEP 6

Place the bottle close to your bed where it will not be knocked over.

COCKROACHES



Cockroach-prevention Hygiene Tips:

It is much easier to prevent infestation by cockroaches than it is to get rid of them once they are in your home!

- ✓ Keep counters clean – wipe with soap and water to remove crumbs – especially before going to sleep.
- ✓ Keep the inside of cupboards clean. Wipe with soap and water to remove crumbs.
- ✓ Cockroaches do not like peppermint. Mix peppermint leaves or oil with white vinegar, and then use regularly to wipe counters and cupboards clean.
- ✓ Cockroaches can hide under a toaster or kettle. Clean all kitchen appliances regularly.
- ✓ Try to have only one eating area in the house.
- ✓ Clean the kitchen floor every night before going to bed – sweep to remove crumbs.

Cockroach Control: Mixture



German Cockroach



Oriental Cockroach



American Cockroach

COCKROACH FACTS:

Cockroaches like dark and crowded spaces. Some cockroaches are attracted to sweet food, others like meat fat/ drippings. Keep checking the traps you make to see what they like.

INGREDIENTS

Icing sugar

Bicarbonate of soda

EQUIPMENT

Teaspoon

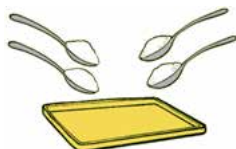
Plastic lid

Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This mixture is for killing cockroaches. Keep the mixture out of reach of children and pets.

You can make your own mixture to control cockroaches by following these steps:



STEP 1

Mix two (2) teaspoons of icing sugar with two (2) teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda on a flat plastic lid.



STEP 2

Place the plastic lid with the mixture behind appliances, cupboards or anywhere cockroaches live. Make sure children and animals cannot reach or eat it.



STEP 3

Leave until mixture is hard and then replace. Put the hard mixture, dead cockroaches, and plastic lid into a plastic bag and throw it away in a rubbish bin with a lid.

Cockroach Control: Trap



German Cockroach



Oriental Cockroach



American Cockroach

COCKROACH FACTS:

Cockroaches like dark and crowded spaces. Some cockroaches are attracted to sweet food, others like meat fat/ drippings. Keep checking the traps you make to see what they like.

INGREDIENTS

Peanut butter

EQUIPMENT

Sellotape or
sticky tape
Matchbox

PURPOSE

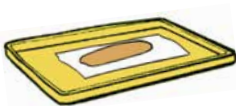
This mixture is for killing cockroaches. Keep the mixture out of reach of children and pets.

Community members can make this trap to control cockroaches by following these steps:



STEP 1

Cut small strips of Sellotape or any other very sticky tape.



STEP 2

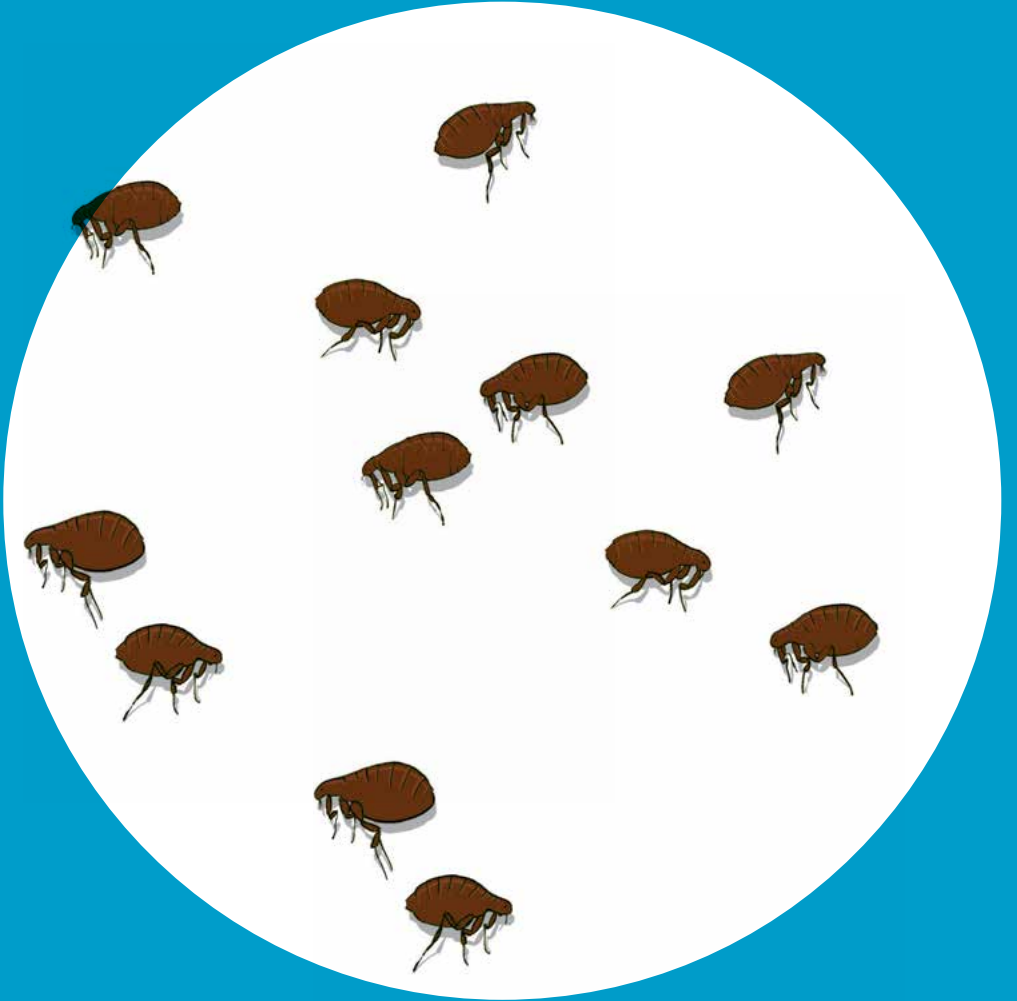
Place the tape, with one teaspoon of peanut butter on the sticky side, onto a plastic lid. Place anywhere cockroaches have been seen. Replace when the tape is full of cockroaches.



STEP 3

Put the the tape with the dead cockroaches into a plastic bag and throw it away in a rubbish bin with a lid.

FLEAS



Flea-prevention Hygiene Tips:

Fleas cannot fly but they can jump from food source (e.g., human, animal) to food source (e.g., human, animal).

- ✓ If you vacuum, clean the bag after each use.
- ✓ Sweep or mop floors often.
- ✓ Brush pets daily outside to remove flea eggs.
- ✓ Shake outside or vacuum rugs often.
- ✓ Wash the bedding that the pets sleep on at least once a week.
- ✓ Prevent strange dogs and cats from coming into the house or yard.

Flea Control: Repellent



Cat Flea



Dog Flea



Bird Flea

FLEA FACTS

Female fleas can lay 30-50 eggs per day on pets or humans and many of the eggs may fall off and end up on the carpet, rug, furniture or pet bedding.

INGREDIENTS

20 x eucalyptus leaves
1L water

EQUIPMENT

Pot
Stove to boil water
Spray bottle or
sponge

PURPOSE

This eucalyptus mixture helps keep fleas away.

You can make your own mixture to control fleas by following these steps:



STEP 1

Place twenty (20) fresh eucalyptus leaves in a pot with one (1) litre of water. Boil the leaves in the water for 10 minutes and let it cool down.



STEP 2

Remove the leaves from the water and put the mixture in a spray bottle or in a wide-open container with a sponge.



STEP 3

Sponge or spray the cool mixture onto pets and places where they sleep. An empty cool drink bottle can also be used as a sprayer if holes are cut into the lid. Make sure to put a label on the bottle.

Flea Control: Lemon Repellent



Cat Flea



Dog Flea



Bird Flea

FLEA FACTS

Female fleas can lay 30-50 eggs per day on pets or humans and many of the eggs may fall off and end up on the carpet, rug, furniture or pet bedding.

INGREDIENTS

2 x lemons
1L water

EQUIPMENT

Pot
Stove to boil water
Spray bottle or
sponge

PURPOSE

This lemon mixture will help keep fleas away.

You can make your own repellent to control fleas by following these steps:

STEP 1

Peel two (2) large lemons.



STEP 2

Place the lemon peels in a pot with one (1) litre of water. Boil the water and peels for 10 minutes and let it cool down.



STEP 3

Remove the peels from the water and place in a spray bottle or a wide-open container with a sponge.



STEP 4

Sponge or spray the cool water onto pets and the places where they sleep.



Flea Control: Salt Repellent



Cat Flea



Dog Flea



Bird Flea

FLEA FACTS

Female fleas can lay 30-50 eggs per day on pets or humans and many of the eggs may fall off and end up on the carpet, rug, furniture or pet bedding.

INGREDIENTS

Fine salt
Water

EQUIPMENT

Brush and dustpan
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This salt mixture will help keep fleas away.

You can make your own repellent to control fleas by following these steps:

STEP 1

Place a thick layer of salt where fleas are found in the home such as under tables, on the couch cushions, carpets, rugs or outside.



STEP 2

Leave the salt overnight, or at least for eight (8) hours.



STEP 3

Sweep up the salt and throw it away in the rubbish bin.





FOR PETS:

Make a mixture of one-part salt to 10 parts water and put in a container to wash your pet in. [For large animals, pour over them.] Soak the pet in the salty water but do not let any salt water get into their eyes or ears. Rinse the pet off with clean, warm water, and then cool water.



FOR PETS WITH LOTS OF FLEAS:

Gently rub dry salt into the pet's fur and leave it for two (2) hours. Brush pet well to remove all the salt and then rinse their fur well with warm water. If the fleas come back again, repeat the salt rub and rinsing in 10 days time.

FLIES



Fly-prevention Hygiene Tips:

To prevent flies:

- ✓ Always keep food covered. Keep food in a container with a lid or put a cloth over the bowl/plate.
- ✓ Sweep often to remove food crumbs from the floor.
- ✓ Make sure your rubbish bin has a lid.
- ✓ Clean the inside of your rubbish bin once a week with vinegar or other cleaning products.
- ✓ Keep your inside and outside drains clean.

Fly Control: Tape Trap



House Fly



Cluster Fly

FLY FACTS:

Flies feed on foodstuff and waste, where they can pick up and spread diseases such as diarrhoea, and eye infections.

EQUIPMENT

Fly tape
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

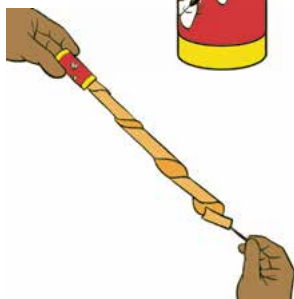
This fly tape/ paper helps catch flies.

You can make your own traps to control flies by following these steps:



STEP 1

Open the package and take the tape out.



STEP 2

Grasp the cord and pull slowly turning the tube in a counter-clockwise (twirling) motion. The cap will pop out.



STEP 3

Remove the thumbtack (pin) from the top of cap and use it to hang up the tape trap. Throw the cap away.



STEP 4

Remove the tape completely from the tube or let the tube dangle from the tape. Hang the tape with the thumbtack (pin) or cord in a high place in the home to attract flies.



STEP 5

When the tape is full of flies, remove it and place in a plastic bag. Throw away the plastic bag in a rubbish bin with a lid. Be careful because the tape is sticky. Wash your hands well after handling the tape.

Fly Control: Mixture



House Fly



Cluster Fly

FLY FACTS:

Flies feed on foodstuff and waste, where they can pick up and spread diseases such as diarrhoea, and eye infections.

INGREDIENTS

Vinegar (any type)
Water

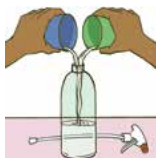
EQUIPMENT

Cup
Spray bottle
Damp paper towel
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This vinegar-water mixture helps keep flies away.

It works best if used alongside other repellents such as citrus peels (skins of citrus fruits hanging on doors and windows), essential oils, or planting citronella, malvarosa, marigold, mint or lemongrass around the house.



You can make your own mixture to control flies by following these steps:

STEP 1

Mix one (1) cup of vinegar with one (1) cup of water and place in a spray bottle.



STEP 2

Shake the bottle well before use. Spray the mixture around windowsills and other surfaces where you see flies resting.



STEP 3

Wipe up the dead flies using a damp paper cloth, place the flies and cloth in a plastic bag and put it in a rubbish bin with a lid.

Fly Control: Bottle Trap



House Fly



Cluster Fly

FLY FACTS:

Flies feed on foodstuff and waste, where they can pick up and spread diseases such as diarrhoea, and eye infections.

INGREDIENTS

Left-over food like rotting potatoes or meat

EQUIPMENT

Empty 2L plastic bottle
Knife
Duct tape
String
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This trap will help catch flies which will starve and die.



You can make your own trap to control flies by following these steps:

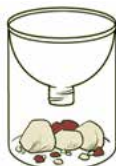
STEP 1

Cut an empty, plastic, 2L drink-bottle in two, with a knife. Make the bottom half larger than the top half.



STEP 2

Place a few pieces of rotting food - such as potatoes or old meat - in the bottom half of the bottle.



STEP 3

Remove the cap from the top of the bottle. Turn the top upside down and place the open end of the bottle inside the bottom half of the bottle.



STEP 4

Tape the two halves of the bottle together so they stay secure. Make two holes on either side of the bottle and hang the trap outside with a piece of string.



STEP 5

When the trap is full or smells too bad, put the trap in a plastic bag and throw it away in a bin with a lid.

Caution: This trap could attract more flies. You should only use this trap when you have a lot of flies. If you only have a few flies, it could end up attracting flies from other places.

Fly Maggot Control: Repellent



Maggot (fly larva)

FLY FACTS:

Flies feed on foodstuff and waste where they can pick up and spread diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and eye infections.

INGREDIENTS

Basil
Water

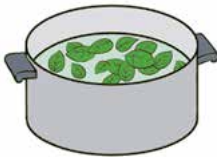
EQUIPMENT

Spray bottle
Damp paper towel
Plastic bag

PURPOSE

This basil mixture will help keep fly maggots away.

You can make your own repellent to control maggots by following these steps:



STEP 1

Soak 20-40 basil leaves in hot water for 24 hours.



STEP 2

Take out the leaves, and pour the mixture into a spray bottle.



STEP 3

Spray the solution on the maggots and inside dustbins. Wipe up the dead maggots using a damp paper towel, put them in a plastic bag and place the bag in a rubbish bin with a lid.

MOSQUITOES



Mosquito-prevention Hygiene Tips

To prevent mosquitoes:

- ✓ Get rid of all standing water. Remove or turn over containers and buckets, toys, pet dishes, etc.
- ✓ Do regular checks to see if there is any standing water and remove it.
- ✓ Change pets drinking water daily.
- ✓ Rake up fallen leaves. An overturned leaf can hold enough water for mosquito's eggs.
- ✓ Check rain gutter and clean regularly.
- ✓ Fill any holes in your garden and yard which may hold water.
- ✓ Plant repellent plants in your garden, yard or in pots in your house. These include lemon thyme, citrus plants (lemon grass), lavender, mint, marigold and rosemary. Rub these plants regularly to release their scent.

Mosquito Control: Trap



Anopheles Mosquito



Aedes Mosquito



Culex Mosquito

MOSQUITO FACTS

Mosquitoes are attracted to standing water around the house as this is where they like to breed. They can breed in as little as 3 cm of standing water.

INGREDIENTS

½ cup Brown sugar
1 teaspoon dry yeast
½ cup Boiling water

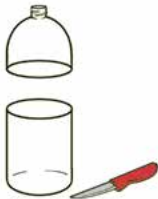
EQUIPMENT

Plastic 2L bottle
Duct tape
Scissors

PURPOSE

This trap helps to kill mosquitoes.

You can make your own trap to control mosquitoes by following these steps:



STEP 1

Cut a plastic one (1) or two (2) litre bottle in half, a little more than halfway from the bottom.



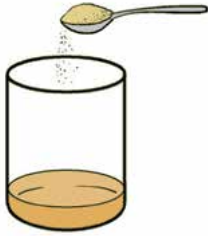
STEP 2

Dissolve ½ (half) cup of brown sugar in ½ (half) cup of boiling water, to create a syrup mixture. Let the syrup cool.



STEP 3

Pour the cooled syrup into the bottom of the plastic bottle.



STEP 4

Sprinkle one (1) teaspoon of dry yeast on the top of the syrup so that the yeast floats on top. **DO NOT STIR.**



STEP 5

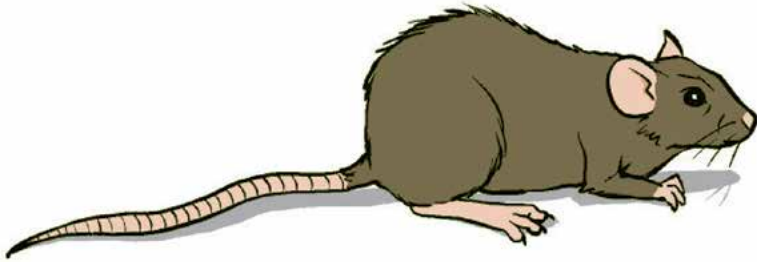
Remove the cap from the top of the bottle. Turn the top upside down and place the open end of the bottle inside the bottom half of the bottle. Hold the two pieces together with tape. Ensure the top of the bottle is above the water and not in it. Make two holes in the bottle and hang up trap outside with a string.



STEP 6

Hang the trap where mosquitoes have been a problem. Empty and refill the syrup mixture every two weeks or when bubbles are no longer forming. Hang up and **place out of reach of children and pets.**

RODENTS



Rodent-prevention Hygiene Tips:

To keep rats and mice (and other pests) from coming into your home:

- ✓ **Starve them out!**
 - store food in containers that close well and do not let air in;
 - clean up spills and crumbs immediately;
 - cover rubbish bins with tight-fitting lids; and
 - take the rubbish out of the house every day.

- ✓ **Dry them out!**
 - fix any leaky taps, pipes or roofs;
 - clean up liquid spills or any water on the floor;
 - do not leave water out for pets overnight; and
 - cover any buckets of water with lids.

- ✓ **Keep them out!**
 - put netting on windows;
 - put screens or netting over the front door;
 - cover vents with netting; and
 - seal any cracks or holes in the walls, floors or under the doors. Steel wool can be useful for plugging holes especially those that rats and mice use.

Rodent Control: Trap



Brown Rat (Norway Rat)



Black Rat



House Mouse

RODENT FACTS:

Rats are excellent climbers. Remove thick plants/bushes around the house and also ensure cracks and openings near the roof are sealed.

INGREDIENTS

Peanut butter, vetkoek or piece of meat

EQUIPMENT

Rat trap
Soap
Water



PURPOSE

This trap helps to kill rats and mice. It needs to be a fast spring-snap trap. DO NOT use the common wood traps; they are not strong enough.

You can use these traps to control rodents by following these steps:



STEP 1

PLACE THE TRAP near where you see rat droppings. Find the route rodents use to get into and in your home. Make sure the trap is out of reach of people, children, or animals that could get hurt by it. For example, put the trap behind cupboards.



STEP 2

ADD BAIT such as peanut butter, vetkoek or old meat when setting up the trap. If possible, ATTACH IT firmly to the ground or a solid place to keep the rat from dragging the trap away. If possible, Leave the trap unset in the same place for three days with food in it. Rodents are shy about new things in their territory



and will only approach the trap when they are used to it. Only after three days, set the trap.

STEP 3

PUT DEAD RODENT in a plastic bag in a rubbish bin with a lid.



STEP 4

WASH THE TRAP with soap (Sunlight or OMO) after catching a mouse or rat and throw out the washing water. The trap must be washed before it is used again. If the rodent smells a dead rodent on the trap, it will not approach the trap. Washing the trap removes the smell of the dead rodent.

Rodent Control: Mixture



Brown Rat (Norway Rat)



Black Rat



House Mouse

RODENT FACTS:

Rats are excellent climbers. Remove thick plants/bushes around the house and also ensure cracks and openings near the roof are sealed.

INGREDIENTS

½ cup Flour/ mealie meal
½ cup Sugar
½ cup Bicarbonate of soda

EQUIPMENT

Cup
Jar lids
Mixing stick

PURPOSE

This mixture is to help kill rats and mice. The sugar will attract the rats and the bicarbonate of soda will kill them.

You can make your own mixture to control rodents by following these steps:



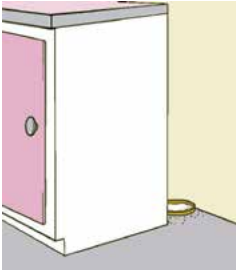
STEP 1

Mix ½ (half) a cup of flour or mealie meal with half a cup of sugar and half a cup of bicarbonate of soda. The sugar will attract the rodents and the bicarbonate of soda will kill them soon after they have eaten it.



STEP 2

Half fill some jar or plastic lids with the bait.



STEP 3

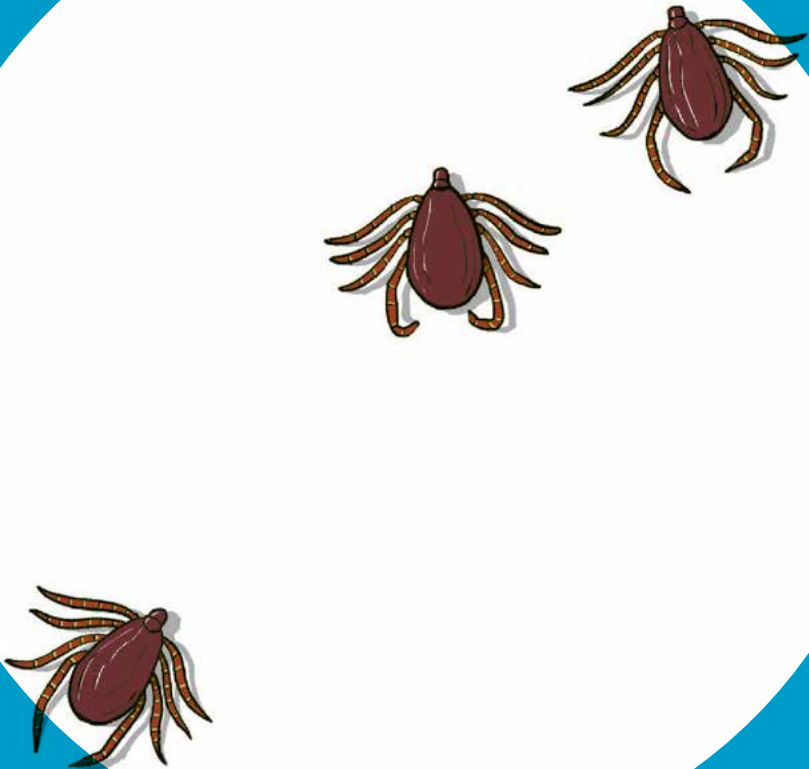
Place the baited lids wherever you have seen droppings or behind cupboards. The rodents often return to these spots. Make sure children and animals cannot reach or eat the mixture.



STEP 4

Collect the dead rodents, put them in plastic bags and place the bag in a rubbish bin with a lid.

TICKS



Tick prevention Hygiene Tips:

To keep ticks from coming into your home:

- ✓ Repellent for pets: Ticks hate the smell and taste of vinegar. Add one cup water to a spray bottle, followed by two cups of vinegar to make a repellent.
- ✓ Check yourself, your children, and your pets daily for ticks and carefully remove any ticks.

Tick Control: Repellent



Hairy bont-legged tick



Smooth bont-legged tick



Spinose ear tick

TICK FACTS

Pets are the main source of ticks in the home. Ticks appear as small dark spots on the pet's fur, and are more commonly found on dogs than cats.

INGREDIENTS

20 x eucalyptus leaves
1L water

EQUIPMENT

Pot
Stove to boil water
Spray bottle or sponge

PURPOSE

This eucalyptus mixture helps keep ticks away.

You can make your own repellent to control ticks by following these steps:



STEP 1

Boil about twenty (20) leaves of fresh eucalyptus in one (1) litre of water for 10 minutes.



STEP 2

Let the water cool down before taking out the leaves.

STEP 3

Pour the cooled mixture into a spray bottle. Spray as needed on pets, especially their feet.



STEP 4

Spray the carpets and any area where pets sleep.

