

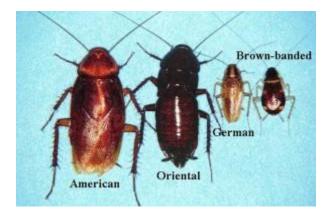
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Roaches!

Cockroaches are nasty insect pests that have been around for 300 million years. Water bugs are simply a variety of roach, with the same foul habits. In nature, roaches recycle decaying organic matter. In your house, they are ugly, stinky spreaders of filth and germs. **32 kinds of bacteria, 17 fungal species, eggs of worms, and toxoplasmosis have been found in or on roaches!** Once they infest a house, they are difficult to get rid of. Cleanliness is the best way to prevent infestations. A clean home denies roaches the food, water and shelter they need to thrive. Inform management if you see roaches.

- 1.) Clean your kitchen thoroughly. Wash and put away dishes. Remove clutter from countertops. Empty your kitchen cabinets and drawers. Scrub the countertops and the insides of your cabinets and drawers with a scouring sponge dipped in a solution of 2 tablespoons of grease-cutting detergent to one-half gallon of water. Remove cabinet shelves if possible and scrub them separately. Replace shelf or drawer liners with new ones. Throw away expired food. Toss cardboard boxes, plastic and paper bags and other kitchen clutter that can shelter roaches. Throw out any food containers that cannot be sealed tightly.
- 2.) Pull the stove and refrigerator away from the wall and scrub all surfaces and interiors. Apply a grease-cutting spray cleaner to remove stubborn dirt and grease. Open stove and refrigerator drawers and clean them. Remove shelves and racks and scrub separately. Clean grease from the oven and stovetop. Run self-cleaning ovens through their cleaning cycle. Throw away expired or deteriorated food in the fridge. Clean dust and debris from the back and underside of the stove and fridge with a whisk broom and vacuum cleaner. Scrub the floor clean, especially underneath the stove and refrigerator and along the edges where the floor meets walls and cabinets.
- 3.) Inform management of plumbing leaks and other sources of moisture. Declutter and clean other areas of the house such as bathrooms and closets to discourage roaches from migrating. Put roach traps inside cabinets and along floor edges to catch the occasional invader. Monitor the traps. A big increase in the number of trapped roaches can indicate an infestation is underway.



Sources: www.homeadvisor.com and http://www.pestcontrolsydney.com.au/category/cockroaches/