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# F.A.Q.'s about Exopest cockroach Treatments in domestic premises

#### How do I know which cockroaches I have?

German or Brownbanded cockroaches are usually found inside homes they range from ant size as nymphs up to 15-20mm as adults. German cockroaches are light amber brown in color with 2 long stripes on head. The Brownbanded is pale brown with light bands across the abdomen. If large shiny black cockroach then it will be a Australian bush Cockroach not a major health pest.



German Cockroach

#### How will a cockroach treatment be carried out?

Our technician will firstly reassess the property, the type of cockroach and treatment may involve injection using aerosols to flush cockroaches from harbourages in particular fridge motors under benches, stove ovens, hot water services crack and crevices. Insecticidal dust applied to roof if accessible & around electricals, application of low toxic approved sprays to skirtings harbourages including cupboards in kitchen, (client should have emptied these prior to service). Exopest can then use both cockroach gels and perhaps cockroach monitors so we can assess areas where cockroaches are reappearing or being reintroduced.

# When should the Cockroaches start dying?

Many die as a result of Exopest directly spraying on the day. Others may need to come into contact with the treated areas. You may also see deformed cockroaches as the gel used is an Insect growth regulator which prevents cockroaches from moulting. This moulting process is required for cockroaches to grow and reach maturity, and therefore able to lay further egg sacs. Small nymphs may also be seen as they may have hatched recently.

#### What if I see cockroaches after Treatment?

This can be expected within the first and follow up visit just use an aerosol to knock down those reappearing, if vast numbers appear Exopest may need to do a call out, although this may already be scheduled, with a follow up recommended when initial treatment was quoted.

#### When do I call Exopest?

If large numbers re-appear particularly small ant size nymphs but only after we have done the scheduled 2-3week follow up.

#### What should I expect?

A large reduction in cockroaches initially but usually will take up to 3-4 visits at least before main control is established. You may see smaller nymphs (baby cockroaches) as they hatch and start foraging

## How often should I have treatments?

Good question. Most cockroach life cycles are from egg to adult in 6 weeks and this can be quicker in more suitable conditions. Unfortunately most kitchens have perfect conditions which include warmth from stove ovens hot water services and water or moisture from sinks and wash down areas. With this in mind most cockroach services should be done 6monthly as German cockroaches are able to excrete an egg sac before dying. This is insulated against chemicals and may not hatch for a week or two making the follow up essential. Inside there can be 15-20 nymphs which in 4-6 weeks can be adults, then dropping their own egg sacs. You can see the constant threat and the need for the 2-3week follow up after initial treatment.

# **Preventative Measures To Ensure Ongoing Control**



Once you have employed a professional pest control company such as EXOPEST CONTROL to control Cockroaches in your environment, there are certain things that you can do in order to get a faster, more long lasting result. We have used our professional equipment and insecticides to get to the places that you as a layman would not normally suspect cockroaches. Once we have commenced the service program there are three measures that you can do to assist with maintaining control.

Brownbanded cockroach

# 1. Keep The Areas Where Cockroaches Have Been Found Scrupulously Clean.

This involves keeping the floor and other areas free of food scraps and grease. Washing up should not be just mopping exposed flooring food scraps and grease can be caught under fridges, stoves, behind equipment and appliances. It may be necessary pull out fridge check under stoves ovens to clean spills and scraps. Cardboard and paper are notorious for harbouring German Cockroaches better to store in plastic sealable containers.

## 2. Fill or block off any cracks and crevices that provide hiding areas for cockroaches.

This may be done with a caulking agent such as "No More Gaps." Dripping taps should have washers replaced as this may provide water or moisture that they cockroaches require. Drains to be cleaned regularly and loose or broken tiles replaced.

# 3. Three weeks after treatment Follow up treatment should be done, even if no cockroaches are sighted at this stage.

Doing this will break their life cycle and hasten their demise assisting in control. Cockroaches can easily be re introduced through second hand equipment, appliances that are sent in for repairs, maintenance or deliveries. Remember that cockroach control relies upon a conscientious effort from both the pest control operator and the client. Success definitely doesn't occur overnight but following these few instructions will get you very good results within one month of our treatment and reduces the likelihood of living and working with these unwanted guests in the future. You may look at treatment every 6 months for continuous control.