Follow these steps:

1. In your home, identify and monitor pest problems.
2. If you can avoid most pests, you can do.
3. Other pests in the ISCE Home Pest Management Series:
   - Spiders
   - Small Mammals
   - Small Flies
   - Silverfish
   - Scorpions
   - Earwigs
   - Pantry Pests
   - Cockroaches
   - Ants

To avoid pest problems in your home, follow these steps:

- If you know what to do, you can avoid most pest problems in your home.
- Follow these steps:
  1. Identify and monitor the pest.
  2. Sanitize and keep your home clean.
  3. Exclude pests by sealing entry points.
  4. Control pests by trying non-chemical methods first, then using pesticides if necessary.
Identify:

- Properly identify the pest.
  - Adult fleas are small, dark, and jump when disturbed.
  - Check for adult fleas by putting on white socks and walking through areas you suspect fleas are infesting. Fleas will show up as black specks on the socks.

Sanitize:

- Before you buy or use any pesticide, read the label carefully. Be sure the product is labeled for the site (or animal) and the insect you will treat and that the chemical will not stain.

- Use a flea comb to remove fleas from your pet. Use a flea dip or spot treatment. These products come as sprays, dips, collars or spot treatments. Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure proper use.

- Bathe your pet regularly. Soap is a mild insecticide.
- Ask your veterinarian about using an insect growth inhibitor to keep fleas from developing on your pet. These products come as pills, sprays, dips, collars or spot treatments.

- Change pet bedding often. If the bedding is wet and large, wash it in hot water to kill flea eggs and larvae.

Control:

- Treat your pet, home and yard on the same day. Indoors, treat floors, carpet, rugs, pet bedding, furniture and cushions.

- If fleas remain a problem, hire a professional pest control service.

Exclude:

- Keep pets out of heavily infested areas.

- Place wire mesh screening over vents in eaves and around the foundation of the house, to keep wild animals that carry fleas from moving into the attic or under your home.

- Do not let your pet roam the neighborhood and then enter your home. Do not let your pet roam the yard or the attic.

- Keep parts of your home and yard on the same day as you treat your pet. Remove fleas by vacuuming, washing, cleaning, treating or discarding.

- Discard the vacuum bag at least once a week in an outdoor garbage can so fleas that hatch in the bag don't enter your home.

- Sweep and mop floors regularly.

- Change pet bedding in hot water.

If fleas are in your home:

- Check for adult fleas by putting on white socks and walking through areas you suspect fleas are infesting. Fleas will show up as black specks on the socks.

- Adult fleas are small, dark, and jump when disturbed.

- Keep pets out of heavily infested areas.

- Place wire mesh screening over vents in eaves and in the attic, and around the foundation of the house, to keep wild animals that carry fleas from moving into the attic or under your home.

- Do not let your pet roam the neighborhood and then enter your home.

- Do not let your pet roam the yard or the attic.

- Keep parts of your home and yard on the same day as you treat your pet. Remove fleas by vacuuming, washing, cleaning, treating or discarding.

- Discard the vacuum bag at least once a week in an outdoor garbage can so fleas that hatch in the bag don't enter your home.

- Sweep and mop floors regularly.