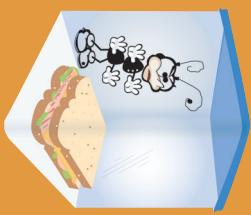


If you know what to do,  
you can avoid most  
pest problems  
in your home.

## Follow these steps:

Identify and monitor  
the pest.



Exclude pests by sealing  
entry points.



Control pests by  
trying non-chemical  
methods first, then  
using Pesticides if  
necessary.

## Other pests in the ISEC Home Pest Management series:

Ants  
Cockroaches  
Fleas

Pantry Pests  
Scorpions  
Silverfish

Small Flies  
Small Mammals  
Spiders



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States Department of Agriculture. Edward G. Smith, Director,  
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New

# Carpenter Ants



Texas Cooperative  
EXTENSION  
The Texas A&M University System

# If carpenter ants are a problem in your home...

## Sanitize:

- Replace rotted or water-damaged wood.

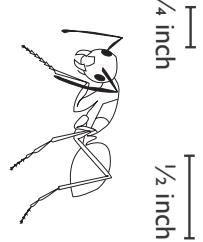


## Control:

- Before you buy or use any pesticide, read the label carefully. Be sure the product is labeled for the site and the insect you will treat.

## Identify:

- Properly identify the ant. Most carpenter ants are  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long and red, black, or red and black.



- Remove tree stumps from the yard.



- Prune bushes and tree branches away from the house. Be careful not to let overhanging tree branches touch the roof. This is an easy way for carpenter ants to enter your home.

## Exclude:

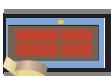
- There are baits for carpenter ants, but they may not control all the ants effectively. If you use baits, give them time to work. They are often slow-acting.



- Use caulk or steel wool to seal openings around plumbing pipes and any other openings where pests can enter your home.

- Do not spray insecticides near baits. Insecticides can contaminate the bait.

- Look for "kick-out holes" (small holes in the wood) and piles of coarse sawdust, insect body parts and other trash. This is a sign of carpenter ants.



- If you can see daylight around outside doors, replace the weather stripping and/or door threshold.

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