

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

Follow these steps:



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



Exclude pests by sealing
entry points.



Sanitize and keep
your home clean.



Identify and monitor
the pest.

Other pests in the ISEC Home Pest Management series:

Ants

Carpenter Ants
Cockroaches
Pantry Pests
Scorpions
Silverfish
Small Flies
Small Mammals
Spiders



Produced by Agricultural Communications,
The Texas A&M University System
Extension publications can be found on the Web at:
<http://tcebookstore.org>

Visit Texas Cooperative Extension at
<http://texextension.tamu.edu>

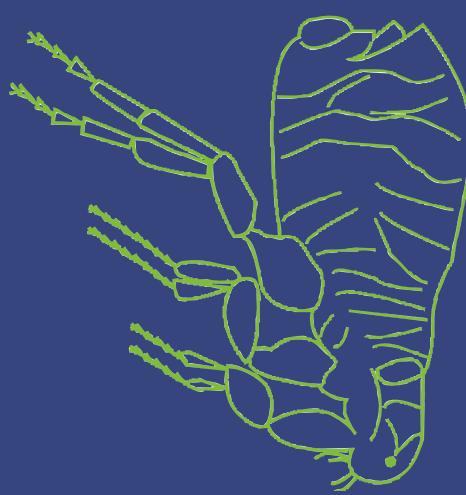
Educational programs conducted by Texas Cooperative Extension
serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race,
color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture
and Home Economics, Acts of Congress of May 8, 1914, as
amended, and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United
States Department of Agriculture. Edward G. Smith, Director,
Texas Cooperative Extension, The Texas A&M University System.

New



Fleas



Texas Cooperative
EXTENSION
The Texas A&M University System

Sanitize:

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

If fleas are
a problem
in your home...

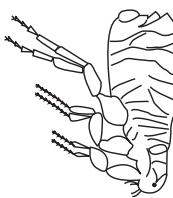
Control:

- 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.

Identify:

- Properly identify the pest.

1/8 inch



Flea

- 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.

Exclude:



- Sweep and mop floors regularly.
- 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.

- If the pet sleeps with you, wash your bedding in hot water.



- Vacuum often—especially where your pet sleeps or lies. Vacuum under furniture, under cushions and along walls.



- 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.
- Bathe your pet regularly. Soap is a mild insecticide.

- 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.