

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

Carpenter Ants

Cockroaches

Fleas

Pantry Pests

Scorpions

Silverfish

Small Mammals

Spiders



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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

Small flies



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If small flies are a problem in your home...

Sanitize:



- Keep garbage in plastic bags and take the garbage out several times a week.



- Buy plants from reputable nurseries. Fungus gnats usually come into your home with the plants you buy.

Identify:

- Properly identify the pest. Fungus gnats are usually found near potted plants. Fruit flies are usually found near over-ripe or damaged fruits or spilled fruit juices. Drain flies are usually found around clogged or dirty drains. Here are some common small flies.



1/16 inch



1/8 inch

Fruit fly

Exclude:

- Do not buy over-ripe fruits or vegetables.
- Store fresh fruits and vegetables in the refrigerator or buy only what you can use within 1 to 2 weeks.



Fungus gnat



- Put fruit in a paper bag to ripen it. Seal the bag by folding over the top and securing it with a clothes pin or chip clip.



- Clean toilets, sinks, showers and tile floors.
- Outdoors, keep garbage in a closed container and keep the container clean inside and out.
- Clean any accumulated organic matter out of drains with a stiff brush.

- Once drains are clean, flush them with boiling water.

- Rinse recyclable items before storing them, and clean the recycling containers often.

- Repair plumbing leaks.

Moth fly or drain fly

Control:

- Adult flies live only a few days, so the key to controlling small flies is to find and eliminate the source of the infestation.
- If flies remain a problem, hire a professional pest control service.

Control: