



# 7 Tips to Prevent Termite Infestation

The complete guide to understanding termites and how to protect your home and property from infestation.



## **#1: Keep all Dirt 2-3in from the First Brick of Your Home**

It is important that we are able to see 2 to 3 inches of the concrete foundation around the exterior of the entire home to visually inspect the slab properly for termites. For best results, do not place dirt or landscaping within 6 inches of the exterior foundation so the chemical barrier is not broken or disturbed, keeping termites from finding a pathway to your home or office.

## **#2: Keep all ivy and plants from growing next to or onto the exterior foundation**

Ivy prohibits us from rendering an effective inspection. Ivy also commonly causes a moisture problem, and creates a direct path for termites to infest a structure.



## **#3: Avoid Stacking Firewood or other Wood Type Materials within 25 Feet of a Home Unless It is Stacked on a Metal Base**

It is important not to create a bridge for termites with wood touching the ground near the exterior of your house.

## **#4: Avoid Using Mulch for Landscaping Near Exterior of The Home**

Mulch can create an entry way for termites to infest your home. All mulch needs to be 6-12 inches from the foundation. Pine straw and rocks are good alternatives to hard wood mulch.

## **#5: Inspect the Outside of the Home for Moisture Problems**

An area that commonly rots and acts as harborage for termites is masonite siding. The bottom 3 to 4 boards of masonite usually rot within 3 years of installation. It is not uncommon for wooden windows and doors to show signs of moisture within 4 to 5 years of installation, especially when a house has small eaves that provide little protection from the direct rain. Caulk around all windows, particularly wooden windows and doors, to prevent moisture. Water that drains adjacent to a structure will wick into the wall areas through bricks, mortar joints and weep holes. If you have stucco siding, all stucco should be cut off to allow for 3 inches of clearance above concrete or dirt. All stucco should be sealed with no cracks.



## #6: Keep Surrounding Dirt Around Your Home Moisture Free

Rain and sprinkler water should drain away from the home. Remove or redirect sprinkler systems that wet between 8-12 inches of a structure. Gutters and downspouts should be maintained to prevent leaks and proper drainage. Water from rain and sprinkler systems will keep the dirt moist. The moisture that has wicked inside the structure from the dirt above grade can allow termites to live without ground contact.



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## #7: Maintain the Barrier Protecting Your Home

Pressure washing your home with sodium hypochlorite (bleach) can deactivate the termiticide. Digging or re-landscaping within 8 inches of your home can break the chemical barrier allowing termites an avenue to your home. It is important to contact our office for a retreatment to keep your home protected. Every 5 years, a complete ground barrier treatment should be applied to be effective. Termite renewals should be completed when due.



# Super Termites: Formosan Termites

- Formosan termites aggressively forage for food and have been found as far as 100 yards away from the main nest.
- They will repeatedly test chemical barriers and find ways to penetrate breaches in the treated soil.
- Formosan termites build large nests within the walls and other enclosed spaces within a structure. These nest serve as residence for millions of individual termites and as reservoirs of moisture to sustain the colony during dry periods.
- Formosan termite colonies can reach populations of more than 10 million individual termites.
- They are also good at finding additional above ground sources of moisture. Common sources of moisture are roof leaks, window frames, bathtubs and showers. You may be giving termites the moisture they need each time you bathe.
- Once established within a building, nests are difficult to destroy, and drastic measures must be taken to eliminate them. Treatment options include: physical removal of the nests by opening the walls, wall treatments with aerosol or foam termiticide applications, above ground bait stations or whole-house fumigation.
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- Colonies tend not to fight with each other; there is growing evidence that colonies share food resources. Colony mixing like this can cause an overexploitation of resources and domination of a habitat by the super colony.
- This termite is an invasive species, as are Argentine ants and red imported fire ants. Invasive species can sometimes escape natural predators that kept them in check in their native lands.





## **Our Mission**

**Arrow Termite and Pest Control strives to provide quality services and consumer satisfaction to keep families, businesses, and non-profits pest free.**

### **From The Beginning**

From our humble beginnings, Arrow Termite and Pest Control arose to become the foremost choice in the eradication of all pests. The origins of the company began in Northern Louisiana in 1958 with the Cohn family. After growing up in the industry, Mike Cohn came to Baton Rouge in 1978 to start his own pest control company. Even with years of experience, starting a company from scratch comes with many challenges. Cohn started his business on commercial contracts with quality service and consumer satisfaction. With his mission, Arrow Termite and Pest Control grew into the premier termite and pest control company in the South for commercial and residential properties.

### **Today**

Arrow Termite and Pest Control serves Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas with sister companies in Alabama and Florida. The company is still a family owned-business with the same core values as its origins. The Cohn family and Arrow Termite and Pest Control are active participants in several charitable organizations in the communities they service and believe in supporting those communities that have supported their business for so many years.



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