

Termites: Top 10 Mistakes that homeowners make

Termites. They're hungry. And to them, your house is food. Is there anything you can do to stop them? Can you make your home less appetizing?

More than 100 termite experts – with a combined 2,000 years of experience – say these are the top 10 mistakes homeowners make when it comes to termites:



8: Digging around the home's foundation. Liquid termite treatments around your foundation are effective only if left undisturbed. So if you dig around your house to plant a new rosebush, you might have opened a hole for termites to crawl through. If your home is protected by the Sentricon[®] System, digging around your foundation isn't a concern as long as the stations stay in place.

10: Repairing utilities on the property. If your lawn gets dug up for plumbing, gas or electrical work, your termite treatment may be compromised if your home has been treated with a liquid termiticide. If your home is protected by a station product such as the Sentricon[®] System, digging isn't a concern as long as the stations stay in place.

7: Leaving old tree stumps in the yard. Dead trees are desirable to termites – almost as desirable as your house. Stumps in your yard can serve as a launch pad for an attack on your home.

9: Piling excessive mulch around the home. Termites *love* mulch. Too much up against your home holds soil moisture and can be a natural bridge the termites can use to enter the structure.



6: Stacking firewood near the home. If you put firewood up against your house, you might as well also leave out a welcome mat for the termites. They can burrow into the woodpile and then right into your house.

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5: Using do-it-yourself (DIY) products to try to control termites themselves. Termite control is not like fixing a leaky tap. Fail to do it right, and you and your home will most likely pay the price. This is one time you should leave it to the professionals.

4: Having untreated wooden materials next to the home. Yes, that new fence will keep your dog in your yard, but that untreated wood up against your house also might let termites in. It is best to use treated wood or vinyl fencing, or at least leave a gap between the fence and your home.



3: Constructing additions to the home without expanding termite protection. If you've added a sunroom, expanded your kitchen or poured a new patio, that addition needs to be protected from termites, too. Don't offer up that beautiful new addition as a termite's next meal.

2: Not fixing earth-to-ground structural wood contact. If a portion of your wood veranda is touching soil, you're asking for termites. Soil + wood contact = termites.

For More Information

Visit the Sentricon website
www.sentricon.com.au or contact your local pest manager.

And the **No. 1** mistake homeowners make when it comes to termites is: **Not getting a professional termite inspection.** Termites are not easy to detect, and failing to do so can cause thousands of dollars in damage. Trained professional termite inspectors know termite behavior — where they like to hide, what their damage looks like, what they leave behind as evidence. You don't. Leave this one up to the professionals.



Sentricon[®] AlwaysActive[™]

Sentricon AlwaysActive is active from day one. It can eliminate a termite colony before you even know it's there!

Sentricon AlwaysActive can be used for new or existing structures, as a preventative or curative treatment, either alone or in combination with other treatments.

Sentricon AlwaysActive is quick and easy to install. There is usually no destruction/disruption to any structure. It may be used in areas of difficult construction, such as heating ducts, drainage systems, stucco below grade, slabs foundations, etc.

Sentricon AlwaysActive is an affordable protection against a common risk.

Sentricon AlwaysActive is safe to you, your pets and the environment. There are no nasty chemicals involved. There is no impact on groundwater, wildlife and the environment. So it is a negligible risk in sensitive situations. Sentricon targets termites, so beneficial insects are not affected.



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