

Pest Prevention and Protection: Safeguarding Your High-Value Properties

When we think of risks to our home we may think of fire, flood, or theft. Yet one of the most overlooked threats comes from something much smaller but no less damaging: pests. From mice chewing through wiring in heritage properties to wood-boring insects weakening period timber beams, infestations can cause significant financial, health, and reputational harm if they aren't dealt with quickly.

Although pests can appear year-round, autumn and winter bring extra risks. As temperatures fall, rodents, spiders, and insects seek warmth indoors. Lofts, garages, and wall cavities make perfect shelters.

Pest Problems Signs in Your Property

Here are some of the most common signs to look out for:

- **Bees:** increased number of bees in a specific area, visible entry points such as holes or cracks in structures, and the presence of buzzing sounds.
- **Rodents:** droppings in cupboards, gnawed food packaging, scratching at night.
- **Insects:** trails of ants in kitchens, clusters of small holes in timber, or moth damage to fabrics and furnishings.
- **Spiders and silverfish:** usually found in damp or undisturbed areas like lofts, wine cellars, or basements.
- **Moths:** tiny holes in clothing, textiles, or carpets, often with webbing or larvae nearby.

Make it a habit to check storage areas, lofts, and less-used corners regularly, especially in winter. For larger properties or multiple holdings, consider professional inspection services.





Proactive Steps to Reduce Your Risk

- **Seal entry points:** Block gaps around doors, windows, pipes, and rooflines - particularly important in period properties with traditional construction methods.
- **Stay clean and tidy:** Store food in sealed containers, clear up crumbs quickly, and take rubbish out regularly.
- **Control moisture:** Pests love damp conditions - fix leaks and use dehumidifiers in basements, wine cellars, and period buildings prone to moisture issues.
- **Schedule regular checks:** Keep an eye on lofts, garages, cellars, and outbuildings. For multiple properties, consider systematic inspection schedules.
- **Call in the experts:** For serious infestations, a professional pest control service with experience in high-end properties is the safest solution.

Taking Action Now to Protect Your Home

Pest prevention can make a significant difference to your safety, finances, and peace of mind. A clean, pest-free home is healthier, easier to insure, and more enjoyable to live in - while maintaining its value.

By staying proactive - sealing gaps, keeping food secure, reducing clutter, and scheduling inspections - you will be protecting your home from avoidable risks.



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