



German cockroach fecal matter on a cabinet drawer glide.



At about 1 ½ inches, American cockroaches (shown left) are much larger than German cockroaches.

OPERATION PEST STOP

Self Inspection

Conduct periodic inspections of your own home for the telltale signs of cockroaches. Be sure to use a good flashlight and look in areas where cockroaches hide (including but not limited to):

- Kitchen cabinets
- Bathroom cabinets
- Cabinet door hinges
- Inside cabinet drawers
- Drawer glides
- Refrigerator door hinges
- Refrigerator gasket seals
- Pantry shelving
- Pantry door hinges
- Other such places where roaches may harbor and deposit fecal matter.



German roaches hiding and fecal matter in a sink base cabinet.

Communication

Immediately report any suspect cockroach activity to your property management team so that they can take the appropriate actions in a timely fashion. We all need to understand that cockroaches are an equal opportunity infester and that anyone may be subject to cockroach infestation. Increased awareness and a well-coordinated community wide effort is the best way to eliminate and prevent cockroach problems.



Pest Management Consulting

www.PJBpestconsultant.com



What YOU Can Do to Help!

Operation Pest Stop is provided as a public service. It is written by Paul J. Bello who is President of PJB Pest Management Consulting. He has been a licensed pest professional since 1976 and is the author of The Bed Bug Combat Manual and The Cockroach Combat Manual II. Mr. Bello has extensive experience in the successful remediation of pest situations at numerous facilities across the United States. For additional information and to submit questions online visit www.pjbpestconsultant.com.

Cockroaches are problematic pests which may be viewed as a community problem. They are particularly problematic in multi-family locations such as apartments, condominiums, dormitories and other such facilities where people reside in close quarters. This is so because these pests may travel from room to room, apartment to apartment and floor to floor. Depending upon the species, cockroaches may be carried along with food, other materials or may come in from outdoors. The most commonly encountered species are the German cockroach and the American cockroach.



German cockroach female egg case and fecal stains. Each section of the egg case represents an individual egg on both sides of the egg case.

An individual resident can help to enhance the success of the pest management program. This brochure provides viable information and practical tips on what each resident can do to assist in the cockroach remediation and prevention effort such that these pests are not a problem in your home. Read to learn **what YOU can do to help!**

Educate Yourself About Cockroaches

One of the most significant problems encountered when dealing with pests such as cockroaches is the lack of awareness, misinformation and misconceptions regarding these pests. Lack of suitable information may serve to undermine the efforts and overall success of the cockroach management program for various reasons. As such, it is best that concerned residents arm themselves with accurate information about cockroaches such that they will be best able to assist in the prevention and remediation effort. Reading and sharing the information in this pamphlet with family, friends and neighbors will help in this regard.

Increase Community Wide Awareness

Lack of awareness and knowledge regarding cockroaches is a significant problem which serves cockroaches well. While it's understandable that most people wish to avoid discussing pest related problems doing so may result in not reporting and keeping a roach problem a secret. An unreported cockroach population may then grow to significant proportions. Simply stated, the less that people know about cockroaches, the better for the cockroaches and the more difficult it will be to eliminate them.

Telltale Signs of Cockroaches

The telltale signs of cockroaches include

- Fecal stains
- Shed skins
- Egg cases
- Carcasses
- Live cockroaches themselves.



American cockroach egg cases and fecal pellets.

Importance of Sanitation

Cockroaches are tiny animals. They require food, water and shelter to survive. By observing suitable sanitation efforts we're able to reduce and eliminate available food resources which might otherwise be available for these pests to feed upon and thrive in our homes. Note that even the smallest crumbs or morsel of food is enough to feed a number of roaches. This is why it's important to keep a clean and tidy kitchen where no leftover food is present for roaches to feed on. The presence of water also allows roaches to survive in our homes. In fact, roaches can survive longer with just water than they can without food alone. Do not leave standing water in your sink or allow a leaking faucet to go unrepaired.

