

## Use Pesticides as a Last Resort

### If you must use a pesticide:

- Read the label and follow the directions.
- Never use outdoor pesticides inside the house.
- Keep pesticides away from children, toys, and pets.
- Keep pesticides in their original container.
- Try safer ways of killing roaches, like boric acid or bait and trap.
- Only buy pesticides with an EPA registration number. Never buy off the street or from friends.



### If you hire someone to kill the cockroaches in your house remember to ask:



- Do you have the necessary pest control certification?
- What work will you be doing in my house?
- What chemicals will be used?

If you have additional questions or concerns call:

**National Pesticide  
Information Center**  
1-800-858-7378



Region 5  
Waste, Pesticides and Toxics Division  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

(800) 621-8431  
[www.epa.gov/region5](http://www.epa.gov/region5)

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# Get Rid of Roaches!



Roaches cause problems for humans. Their body parts and droppings can make people sick. Follow these simple steps to rid your home of roaches.

## Starve Them Out

Roaches like to stay in places where they can find food. If they can't find food they probably will leave.

- Keep drawers, cabinets and counter tops free of food and clutter.
- Clean up spills and crumbs.
- Seal bags and containers of food.
- Cover trash. Don't leave food out overnight.



Cover Food

## Dry Them Out

Roaches can't live without water to drink. Get rid of standing water all over the house.

- Fix leaky faucets and pipes.
- Always drain water from sink and bath after use.
- Keep drains clear of water and garbage.
- Keep all areas of the house clean and dry, including the basement, kitchen, and bathrooms.



Fix Leaks

## Keep Them Out

Stop roaches from becoming a problem. Keep them out of your house.

- Keep your house clean and in order.
- Put screens over vents and pipes that open to outside.
- Seal cracks and openings with caulk along baseboards, behind sinks, and around windows.
- Vacuum and mop your floors regularly.



Clean up