

Unit 207: Food safety

Handout 4: Pest control

How to deny pests access to food areas

Most common food pests enter food areas to search out food and warmth and shelter.

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Signs of pest infestation:

- droppings
- smell
- smear marks
- pupae cases
- larvae
- damaged/gnawed packaging
- food spillages.

To make sure that they cannot enter or survive in food areas you should:

- check pests do not arrive with deliveries
- use fly screens on windows
- keep doors and windows closed as far as is possible
- carry out regular checks to find possible entry routes
- pay attention to external waste areas
- keep lids on all bins at all times
- clean as you go: do not allow waste to accumulate
- do not leave used equipment lying around
- ensure all food is put away or refrigerated overnight
- check dry foods are stored in tightly lidded containers
- ensure a good regime of cleaning is adhered to
- carry out regular checks of all storage areas and rooms
- empty kitchen and preparation areas bins regularly throughout the day.