



In need of some assistance with a fly infestation?

Call us today

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FLIES:
Pest Advice

London Network for Pest Solutions Ltd provides information leaflets on the following pests:

Rats • Mice • Cockroaches • Squirrels • Bed Bugs • Wasps •
Flies • Fleas • Moths • Ants • Foxes • Birds • Spiders

What do flies look like?

Part of the insect family, flies have six legs, antenna and one pair of wings. There are many different species in the UK, and they come in various shapes and sizes, ranging from long and slim, to small and squat! A fly's colouring depends on the species; bluebottles are metallic blue, house flies tend to be grey and fruit flies are an appealing yellow-brown.

Where do flies live?

With a relatively short life cycle of between 24 hours to a few months, depending on the species, flies don't usually have a place they call 'home'. During their short lives, flies move from food source to food source in search of their next meal, meaning that they can be found almost anywhere and everywhere! Bins, left-out food, plants, compost piles, faeces, food waste, pet food and floor drains are all desirable hotspots for the average fly.

What do flies eat?

The diet of a fly is not for the faint-hearted; in general, they love to feast on decaying organic matter such as meat, fruit, vegetables, liquids, plant secretions and faeces. Specific species will usually have a preference for fruit, rotting corpses or faeces and because they can't chew, flies will vomit saliva to dissolve the food until it's digestible, sucking up the liquid.



DID YOU KNOW?

Despite only having one pair of wings where most insects have two, flies can fly up and down, side to side and even backwards!

DID YOU KNOW?

Flies taste with their feet! Their taste receptors are located on their lower legs and feet, which is why you'll often see them crawling all over food before eating it

Are flies bad for my health?

Flies are often considered more of a nuisance than a danger to health, but these small pests do pose a serious risk to humans, pets and livestock. Flies are known to spread at least 200 known pathogens, parasites and diseases, including typhoid, cholera, dysentery, tuberculosis and E.coli. As well as vomiting on the food they're about to digest, flies also excrete on its surface, as well as contaminating food by transferring germs from previous meals (faeces, waste etc.).

What are the signs of an infestation?

Common clues of a fly infestation include increased, regular sightings of flies in and around your home, food and bins, as well as clusters of tiny black spots. Flies are prolific breeders, and the presence of maggots (flies in their larval stage) can indicate that your property will soon be swarming with flies.

How can I prevent a fly infestation?

There are some easy practical, preventative steps you can take to deter flies from invading your property. Don't leave food uncovered, clear crumbs and spillages immediately and ensure bin lids are firmly closed, both indoors and outdoors. Clean and sanitise your kitchen and bathroom regularly, and keep your home and garden free from animal faeces. If flies are a persistent problem, consider fitting fly screens around doors and windows, especially in the summer when flies are more active.

How to get rid of flies?

If left untreated, a few flies can rapidly turn into a full-blown infestation. Because proper identification is key for appropriate treatment, a DIY approach is not usually recommended. A pest controller will be able to accurately identify the species, as well as locate any breeding sites. Fly infestations are best tackled by a professional, as a proper de-infestation is a complex process, requiring skill, expertise and professional treatments such as specialist insecticides.

