

# Rat and mouse control and prevention methods

As we begin to move into colder months, homeowners may see house mice or Norway rats in their home. The infestations of these pests can lead to property damage, infections and food poisoning. However, there are measures homeowners can take to control the unwelcome house guests.

## Sanitation

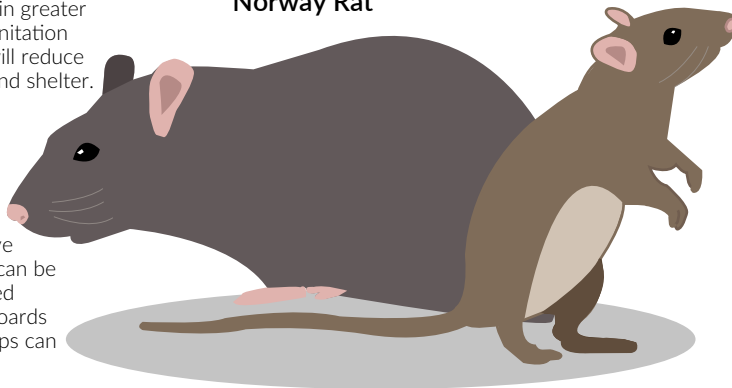
Poor sanitation is sure to attract and permit these pests to thrive in greater abundance. Though good sanitation may not eliminate pests, it will reduce the places where they can find shelter.

## Trapping

Trapping is the most effective control method, however it can be time consuming. Wood-based snap traps, bait traps, glue boards and multiple-capture live traps can be found in most stores.

Norway Rat

House Mouse



## Rodent-proof construction

Rodent-proofing can help make structures more difficult for rodents to access. Sealing cracks and larger openings to avoid gnawing can deter pests from entering. All places where food is stored or processed should be proofed for rodents.

## Rodenticides (toxic baits)

Rodenticides are recommended when dealing with larger populations of rodents. There are single-dose and multiple-dose (anticoagulant) pesticides. It is recommended to hire a licensed operator to ensure they are used safely and effectively.