To control rats, remove attractants including food, water, and shelter and eliminate entry points into your home

Control Rats: Prevent • Exclude • Trap

Prevent

Identify Signs of Activity
- Rat droppings
- Holes and gnaw marks on fruit, cardboard, wood, plastic containers, and wires
- Greasy rub marks along walls, fences and entry points

Remove Attractants
- Pick ripe and fallen fruits, nuts and vegetables
- Cover garbage cans and compost bins
- Place food in lidded metal containers when storing in garages and sheds
- Remove uneaten pet food and birdseed daily

Remove Rat Habitat
- Raise wood piles 12 inches off of the ground
- Keep heavy vegetation, such as bougainvillea and ivy, away from buildings and fences
- Remove trash and debris from your yard

Exclude

Identify and Remove Potential Entry Points
- Repair openings (Anything bigger than a quarter) using 1/4 inch 18-22 gauge wire mesh
- Close gaps under doors using metal door sweeps
- Trim trees and bushes near roof

Exclude

Gaps under doors
Trees or shrubs near roof

Openings and gaps

Open vents

Gaps around chimney

Torn or missing crawl space cover

Open vents

Gaps around chimney

Trees or shrubs near roof

Loose metal flashing around roof

Trap

- Place traps along walls, behind objects, in dark corners, and where you see rat activity
- Tie down snap traps to prevent traps from being dragged away
- Bait with food for a few days before setting the trigger; rats learn traps are “safe” and become easier to catch
- Avoid using poison baits inside the home because rats may die in walls, creating foul odors and attracting flies

Safety Tips
- Spray rat droppings with a mild bleach solution (9 parts water to 1 part bleach) before cleaning
- Use caution when placing traps around children or pets
- Carefully follow all directions on rodent bait labels

Call for a FREE educational rat inspection!

During a rat inspection, the technician will:
- Look for signs of rat activity and entry points
- Provide instructions for eliminating rat habitat and trapping
- Provide a rat prevention starter kit like the one shown.

CALL FOR A FREE EDUCATIONAL RAT INSPECTION • (858) 694-2888
Rats

Rats are destructive pests that can damage structures and electrical wires. They can also contaminate food and water and spread diseases like plague and rat bite fever. Control rats in and around your home by learning to Prevent, Exclude, and Trap!

Prevent

Exclude

Trap

Prevent

Exclude

Trap

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For more information, visit us online at SDVector.com

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