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# Pest Control checklist for businesses

Empty buildings, deserted streets and reduced footfall will provide an ideal opportunity for pests to thrive. Pest problems can have costly consequences for your business such as: contaminating your food; causing damage to your building furniture, and equipment; potential enforcement action and subsequent damage your reputation, as well as causing diseases like salmonella and E. coli.

Here are some simple steps and a checklist to help protect your business against pests.

**1. Pests to look out for**:

Rats, Mice, Fruit flies, Drain Flies, Cockroaches, Ants, Birds, Stored Insects (moths, beetles, weevils).

**2. Signs of pests:**

* Damage to food or packaging such as gnaw marks or small holes
* Gnawing of building materials, wiring, pipework, sort furnishings, equipment
* Droppings
* Smells of urine
* Sightings of live or dead pests
* Pests caught in traps
* Noises: squeaks, scurrying sounds
* Tracks in dust

**3. What to do if you think you have got a pest problem**

If you think you might have a pest problem or need further information or guidance, contact a pest control service, details of various companies can be found on-line or in the telephone directory.

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| **Pest Control Check List** | **Tick icon** |
| ***Check all property areas regularly***  |  |
| ***Check and rotate stock*** |  |
| ***Implement a cleaning schedule*** |  |
| ***Check maintenance and structure of property is in good repair***  |  |
| ***Ensure external areas are clear of rubbish and refuse bins have lids***  |  |
| ***Ensure food waste is promptly removed*** |  |
| ***Ensure shrubs, grass and trees are maintained*** |  |
| ***Implement in-house pest control checks or engage a pest control company***  |  |