

Pavement Ants

Scientific Name: Tetramorium caepitum



Identification Tips:

Color	Light to dark brown to blackish
Legs	6
Size	Workers range from 1/12" to 1/4"
Identifying Characteristics	3-segmented body; two nodes; 12 segment antennae (ends in 3 segmented club); head and thorax furrowed with deep grooves; piles of dirt/concrete indicative of this ant

Characteristics of this insect:

- Individual colonies may contain thousands of workers, multiple queens and is usually located at one particular site
- As the name implies, this ant earns its name by building nests beneath and along sides of pavement: patios, driveways, sidewalks, and foundation of homes. Inside, may be found in kitchens, bathrooms, basements, baseboards, and wall voids to name a few
- Swarming of reproductives (which look nothing like the picture above) can take place any time of the year, but usually takes place in the Spring (based on favorable heat, humidity, etc.)
- Diet consists of a variety of foods, including grease, sweets, seeds, honeydew produced by aphids, and dead insects. Pet foods or any food dropped on the floor will be quickly engulfed with this ant

Why are they in my structure?

If your home is located on a slab, the slab may be the primary location for the infestation and hence the problem from year to year. If not, this ant may be associated with concrete portions of home or foraging from outside due to a food substance or attractant inside the home.



Is this insect harmful to me?

Although this ant is primarily a nuisance insect, they could potentially carry germs on their bodies from visiting unsanitary locations and contaminate food and/or food preparation and storage areas. It is always best to control the pest and keep away from your living space.

Can I treat the problem myself?

This problem can sometimes be treated by the homeowner. However, homeowners often utilize products that are ineffective or apply them not in accordance with labeling and state laws. Please remember that products may be harmful to you and your family if they are misused or misapplied and should be handled by a professional.

What can Apex do for me?

An Apex representative will spend time interviewing the homeowner as to where the ants have been seen, how many, if they were winged or not, conditions within the home that may be causing the problems, and presence of dirt/concrete pile and ant trails to name a few. That being said, Apex can provide you with a one-time application or a preventative maintenance plan.

One-Time Treatment: An interview with the homeowner is conducted along with a detailed inspection of both the inside and outside of the structure. Time is spent locating foraging ant trails and then a targeted application of product is made to rid your home of these unwanted guests. A 90-day guarantee is provided with free service calls if needed.

Pest Prevention Plan: Quarterly inspections and treatments are performed to keep your home pest free year around. Free service calls are provided whenever a pest outbreak occurs. Being that a variety of general insect problems are covered, this is a cost effective way to maintain the integrity of your home and is the **recommended treatment of Apex.**

Is the treatment safe for my children and pets?



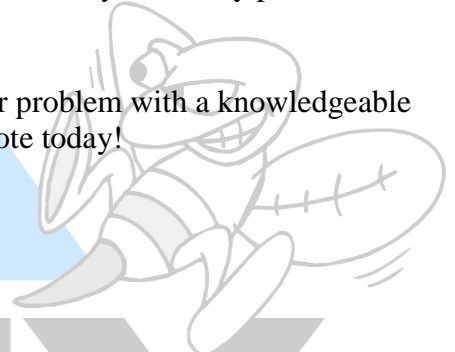
Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: *“The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.”* Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of treatment when possible. When conventional treatments are required, our licensed technicians are trained to apply the products so as to not pose a problem to people or their pets. All conventional products are EPA registered and our technician will advise you of any necessary precautions.

What should I do now?

Call our office at 1-800-MUG-A-BUG (1-800-684-2284) to discuss your problem with a knowledgeable customer service representative. Otherwise, sign up for a free online quote today!

Pavement ant image courtesy of University of Nebraska-Lincoln (<http://lancaster.unl.edu/>)

<http://www.apexpestcontrol.net/> 1-800-MUG-A-BUG



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