



German Cockroach

(blattella germanica)

Found throughout the world and in close association with humans. Tan to brown with two black stripes down back of neck. Adult is about a half inch long. It has wings but doesn't fly.

The German roach is the roach most likely to be found in your restaurant kitchen, home kitchen, or apartment. Infestations often begin when they are introduced in packages or product. They can easily squeeze into the cracks of a cardboard box or even an item of clothing that has been hanging in an infested area.

Roaches do not hatch from an egg into a larva and then go into a cocoon before becoming an adult (like moths or butterflies). Rather they hatch from an egg into a nymph, which looks like a tiny adult. They then molt as they grow and emerge as a larger nymph. These stages (about six) are called instars.



A German roach at left in its third instar looks similar to an adult. It gets progressively larger in each instar until it becomes fully developed. Immediately after molting it is very light in color and sometimes called an "albino roach."

The adult female carries the egg case (ootheca) until just before the hatch of 30 to 40 eggs. The entire life cycle takes about 100 days and the breed continuously and at any on time there may be many overlapping generations.



The German roach has a high moisture requirement and is most likely to be living in warm humid areas. They will eat almost anything and spread disease by crawling from filth to clean food and dishes.

People often underestimate the number in a roach infestation since they are active at night and avoid strong light. They are often spread throughout an apartment building by attempts to eliminate them with aerosols, which kill some and spread others.

Successful elimination and control involves the right materials, preparation before treatments, and often, habitat modification. For further information give us a call.

Paratex Pest Solutions

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