



HOUSEHOLD PEST IDENTIFICATION CHART

KC METRO
10/10
2026 EDITION

The 12 pests KC homeowners call about most – where they hide and when to call.

MOST COMMON KC CALLS

Ants · spiders · mice · wasps

Seasonal, mostly nuisance, and very fixable with the right ID and a sealed-up house.

FASTEST TO GET WORSE

Roaches · bed bugs · termites

These three don't go away on their own – call early.

PEST PRESSURE - KC

Year-round

Spring swarms, summer stingers, fall invaders, winter rodents.

J F M A M J J A S O N D

THE DIY RULE

Identify before you treat

The wrong product on the wrong pest wastes money and spreads the problem. Text us a photo – free.

PEST	WHERE YOU'LL FIND THEM	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	RISK	DIY OR CALL?
 ANTS <i>Many species — see Chart 01</i>	Kitchens, baths, along foundations and slab cracks	Trails of small ants; 3 body segments, elbowed antennae; winged swarmers in spring	MEDIUM	DIY / CALL Baits for a few outside; call for indoor trails or carpenter ants
 COCKROACHES <i>German · American · Oriental</i>	Kitchens, baths, drains, basements, behind appliances	Flat oval body, long antennae, fast; pepper-like droppings, egg cases	HIGH	CALL German roaches spread fast; foggers make it worse
 SPIDERS <i>See Chart 02</i>	Corners, basements, garages, closets, stored boxes	8 legs, 2 body parts; cobwebs or fast wanderers; violin mark = recluse	MEDIUM	DIY / CALL Sticky monitors; call if recluses or widows show up
 BED BUGS <i>Cimex lectularius</i>	Mattress seams, box springs, headboards, couches, luggage	Apple-seed size, flat, reddish-brown; black spotting on seams; itchy bites in rows	HIGH	CALL DIY rarely works; needs a heat or chemical program
 FLEAS <i>Ctenocephalides felis</i>	Pet bedding, carpet, under furniture, shady yards with wildlife	1/8" dark, jumping; "flea dirt" on pets; bites around ankles	MEDIUM	DIY / CALL Treat the pet (vet), vacuum daily; call for the home & yard
 MICE & RATS <i>See Chart 04</i>	Garages, attics, wall voids, under appliances, sheds	Droppings, gnaw marks, scratching at night, greasy rub marks	HIGH	CALL Exclusion + trapping; skip indoor poison
 TERMITES <i>See Chart 05</i>	Foundation, sill plates, window frames, crawl spaces	Mud tubes; swarmers and shed wings in spring; hollow or blistered wood	HIGH	CALL Free inspection — the earlier the cheaper
 WASPS & HORNETS <i>See Chart 07</i>	Eaves, decks, ground holes, wall voids, attics	Paper combs, gray football nests, traffic in and out of a hole	MED-HIGH	DIY / CALL Small early paper wasp nests at dusk; call for ground, wall & hornet nests
 SILVERFISH <i>Lepisma saccharinum</i>	Bathrooms, attics, basements, books and boxes	1/2" silver, teardrop shape, three tail bristles; wiggling motion	LOW	DIY Dehumidify, seal, sticky traps; call if persistent
 PANTRY MOTHS & BEETLES <i>Plodia interpunctella & others</i>	Flour, cereal, pet food, birdseed, spices, chocolate	Small tan-copper moths at dusk; webbing in food; tiny brown beetles	LOW	DIY Find and toss the infested food; clean shelves; call if it returns
 CARPET BEETLES <i>Anthrenus · Attagenus</i>	Closets, rugs, wool, pet hair, under furniture, window sills	Tiny round mottled beetles at windows; fuzzy bristled larvae; holes in wool	LOW-MED	DIY Vacuum, wash and store fabrics; call for persistent damage
 MOSQUITOES <i>Culex · Aedes</i>	Standing water, gutters, tarps, shade and ivy	Bites at dusk and dawn; larvae wriggling in buckets, pots, gutters	MEDIUM	DIY / CALL Dump water weekly; call for yard treatments

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