

AVOID RODENTS DURING RENOVATIONS

Renovations can be stressful as is, and adding an unintentional rodent infestation to the mix can slow down your timeline and cost you money in repairs. Renovations present rodents with ample opportunity infest your property because open doors allow easy entry and construction provides ample harbourage sites. Wood, paper, dry wall, pipes and wires can all fall victim to rodents – unless proper pest management measures are put in place.



Follow this checklist at every step of your renovation to keep rodents out of your space:

Renovation Pre-Planning

- Meet with your pest management provider to identify potential weak spots and assess the rodent pressure in the environment.
- Choose building materials that deter rodent activity like concrete, fiber-cement siding and non-cellulose insulation.
- Strategically place approved rodent bait stations outside to lure rodents away from the construction site.
- Grade landscaping away from exterior walls and entrances so water doesn't pool near the foundation.
- Trim foliage at least two feet away from building exteriors to limit roof and upper level accessibility.

Best Practices During Renovations

- ❑ Conduct an early inspection to check for signs of rodent activity and adjust your pest management plan if needed.
- ❑ Check incoming materials for signs of rodent activity before bringing them inside. Droppings, chewed surfaces and dead rodents near materials are red flags.
- ❑ Maintain a clean construction site to prevent rodents from seeking shelter in your space. Remove clutter and dispose of food trash in a garbage can with a tight fitting lid.
- ❑ Monitor walls and foundations for cracks that rodents can enter through. Seal cracks, gaps and crevices as needed.
- ❑ Put all materials away at the end of each day.
- ❑ Keep entranceways closed as often as possible.
- ❑ Use steel or copper mesh to seal walls and prevent rodents from gnawing through to wires and electrical systems.

Ongoing Protection

Once you've established an effective rodent control program on your property, it is important to continue routine inspections for signs of rodent activity. Failing to maintain these best practices can make rodent removal extremely challenging – and costly – down the road.



To learn how Orkin Canada can help protect your property during renovations, give us a call.

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