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Ants killer indoor

Please make sure to read the product label from any insecticide you choose to use to get information about the personal protective security gear you need. In most situations, it is recommended that you wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, closed toe shoes with socks, chemical resistant gloves and goggles. In areas where ventilation is weak, a manufacturer may recommend that you wear a mask or a respirator. We've put together two different safety kits that will make the correct safety gear easier for you. Photo: Doug Mahoney Your guideDoug MahoneyIf you try to kill domestic ants the wrong way, you can actually split apart the colony—and make the problem worse. That won't happen with Terro T300 Liquid Ant Bait, a favorite among homeowners because it's easy to use, it's widely available, and the effective, slow-acting poison targets and eliminates the entire colony. Terro Liquid Ant Bait is effective, easy to use, widely available, relatively safe, and almost unanimously recommended by homeowners. If that doesn't work, call a pro.\$15* from Amazon (pack two)*At the time of publication, the price was \$13.The active ingredient in Terro Liquid Bait is borax, a relatively secure compound that can be used as a laundry detergent. It has a long track record of success against indoor ants, and when mixed with a sweet, syrupy liquid, it creates a very attractive meal for an ant. Unlike many competitors, Terro uses a clear bait station that is easy to monitor. Terro has a great reputation, with tons of positive reviews and excellent user feedback at a variety of retailers. Although it has a similarly active baiting ingredient as Terro, Amdro's version is harder to use, and people don't quite noise it like the Terro products. If Terro isn't available in your area, we also like Amdro Kills Ants Ant Killer. It is similar to Terro in that it uses borax in a sweet liquid mixture to attract ants. But the location station is harder to set up, and the product doesn't have Terro's sterling reputation. That aside, it can work. Advion Fire Ant baiting can kill a fire ant colony within a few days and can be broadcast about your yard for seasonal driving.*At the time of publication, the price was \$43.As you fire ants, we recommend Advion Fire Ant Bait. This grain bait contained indoxacarb, which several experts told us is the fastest acting and most effective ingredient for fire ant driving. Advion can treat individual hills with just a few tablespoons or broadcast across your entire yard - the container has enough for an acre. Terro Liquid Ant Bait is effective, easy to use, widely available, relatively safe, and almost unanimously recommended by homeowners. If that doesn't work, call a pro.\$15* from Amazon (pack two)*At the time the publication was the price \$13.Although it has a similarly active baiting ingredient as Terro, Amdro's version is harder to use, and people don't quite noise from it like the Terro products. Advion Fire Ant Bait Could Kill a Fire Ant within a few days and can be broadcast on your yard for seasonal management.*At the time of publication, the price was \$43.To learn more about ants and how to handle it, we came up with a number of experts in pest control, including Robert Vander Meer, research leader of the USDA's Imported Fire Ant and Household Insects Research Department in Gainesville Florida. He has 42 years of experience and is one of the most credentialed sources anywhere in the area of distant control. We spoke to Glen Ramsey, the manager of technical services at Rollins. He is an entomologist and offers technical expertise to brands such as Orkin, HomeTeam Pest Defense, Western Pest Services, Trutech Wildlife Service, and Waltham Pest Services.We spoke with Robert Puckett, an assistant professor and an expansion entomologist for Texas A&M's Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Project spoke. He works with The Urban and Structural Entomology Programme and has done international consultation work (as in Australia) on the control of fire work. We also interviewed Stewart Clark, director of research for Terro, with nearly 40 years of experience in the ant industry, and exchanged emails with Cisse Spragins, the founder, owner, and CEO of Rockwell Labs, which makes InTice and Maggie's Farm ant control products. Just one small ant can feel the most glamorous kitchen like a dumpster. And fire ants can make your yard a venomous minefield that can pose a serious health risk. Whatever risk you have, this guide is for anyone who wants to take a few simple steps before calling a professional. If you see some ants indoors, don't buy anything just yet. Clean your kitchen as thoroughly as you can, looking for unknown dumplings. Ants come in for some reason, Ramsey said, and more often than not, that reason is food. Typically, if you get rid of everything they feed on, the ants will leave. Wash out your trash. Empty the cabinet under the sink. If that doesn't work, try a bait. A word of caution from Ramsey: With DIY treatments, you can make it worse, you can make it better. If you put out ant bait and you still see ants after a week or two, something goes wrong in your treatment — there's an unknown food source, a hidden nest — and it's time to call a pro. Ramsey added, if it keeps getting worse and worse, it's getting more challenging for us as well. Our solutions should work with regular domestic ants, including small black ants, odor-like home ants, Argentine ants, acrobat ants, pharaoh ants, and white-footed ants. But if you have carpenter ants — you'll see wood shaft remedies in conjunction with ant activity — call a pro. Time is not on your side, as they probably chew on the structure of the house. Dealing with them isn't easy either, according to this Texas

A&M FAQ: It may be necessary to have small holes in wall baseboards, window and door benches to apply insecticides to the nest or large part of the colony, procedures best done a professional pest management provider. There are a wide range of ways to manage an ant problem, but all the experts we spoke to send us to using bait. An ant bait is a mixture of food and a slow-acting poison that has worker ants—the ones you see from and over-collect and bring back to the colony to share. You don't want to kill these ants, Clark said. You want them to carry a poisonous, something that will destroy the colony and kill the Queen. You want to put them to work for you. Unlike other methods of ant control, such as kill-on-contact sprays or lawn-wide pesticide application, bait is very specifically aimed at ants. The bait we like to come in small containers, called bait stations, which have an entrance just the size of an ant. Many manufacturers also sell their bait either in a syringe or tube (such as toothpaste) so that it can be applied to a piece of cardboard or directly to the floor near an ant trail, but such as sprays and lawn-wide pesticides, it increases potential exposure to non-targeted animals (or children). You don't want to kill these ants ... you want to make them work for you. Stewart Clark, director of research for TerroWe, sought out a bait that was effective and easy to use. Bait can work as fast as a few days or, for a large colony, a few weeks. Our preference is with clear bait stations, which makes it easy to monitor ant activity, to see if the bait is being used or if there are any ants currently feeding. You can't do that with the opaque bait stations, so with those you really let guess about what's going on. With a clear location, like that of Terro, it's easy to monitor ant activity. Pictured: Doug MahoneySweet ant bait throws the widest net for attracting indoor ants. Typically, those that would infect a home are sugar-feeding ants, Ramsey said. Some baiting is protein-based, and an ant's preference can depend both on the type of animal as well as the time of year. According to Ramsey, many ants in the warmer months will feed on high-sugar, high-carb things because they are fast energy. But in the winter months they will seek proteins for maintaining[ing] energy for longer periods of time, as there is less of that fast energy available. Other control methods all have significant disadvantages. Kill-on-contact sprays do very little and can actually make your problem worse. Ramsey told us he would never recommend a death-on-contact spray. It's a Band-Aid to a problem. You kill those who can be there immediately, but there's no impact on a colony somewhere else, he said. Clark echoes this sentiment: Many people have been trained over the years to pick up a can of ant and roach spray and inject them... and that's what you don't want to do. Ramsey even said some species, such as pharaoh ants, would split their colony if sprayed and you'd have the infestation spread your home. Putting a pesticide perimeter around your home is another option and one one Ramsey said can be effective, but only if you're sure the ants come from the outside. These perimeter products are usually either bait or kill-on-contact fabric. We prefer the lower impact, easy-to-use bait station, rather than distributing and maintaining a pellet bait or kill-on-contact pesticide around your entire home. When looking at products, we put an emphasis on availability. It's smart to build up a small supply of ant bait to have on hand when needed, but it doesn't always work that way, so we wanted to recommend products that can be found on the shelves of big box stores and nationwide retailers. If you see an ant on the kitchen island, it's likely you're not interested in waiting a few days for a package to arrive before you start doing something about it. There are so many variables in ant behavior, from place to place and species to species, so we don't have any of our own tests for efficacy. For that, we relied on our experts and published scientific data. We also looked at customer feedback from different retailers, looking for patterns of efficiency. Drawing on the wide-range experiences of users across the country gave us a sense of the overall value of a bait. While writing this guide, we set up a number of baits in two different homes where ants were spotted, knowing our results would simply be one additional data point to consider What we did see was a single product standing far above the other. Fire ant bait Fire ants are different. They are usually found just outside, they sting like hornets, and their hill colonies can take over a lawn. They are extremely tough and intrusive. In fact, if you live in any of the southern states that the USDA classifies as a certain fire ant region, there's no hope of getting rid of them altogether — you can just keep them at bay. And you should: Vander Meer told us that the poison it will inject you with has the same type of proteins you would associate with bees and wasp stings... and can lead to aafilactic shock or a very severe allergic reaction. Fire ant bait is typically a grain corn grit mixed with soybean oil and a toxin. Usually a few tablespoons can be spread near an individual hill, or the bait can be broadcast over an entire yard. Puckett explained his recommended approach: In the fall of the year, you make a broadcasting application... and you reduce the population of ants as winter goes on. Come spring, if you have some that make it through that process—typically you have very little—you can treat those individually. He also noted that broadcasting a fire ant bait over a lawn is very different from broadcasting a murder-on-contact pesticide. First, the amount required for a fire ant bait to succeed is very small. To explain this, he said that with some products as little as 11 grains per square meter. This minimalist spread combined with the exceptional foraging capabilities of fire ants makes it unlikely that a or other non-target species will succumb to the effects of the toxins. He added, We're not as much worried about non-target effects with that granular ace as we do with other treatment approaches. Spreading a dead-on-contact pesticide over your lawn is very different. Once that active ingredient is released, Puckett said, there's going to be a long period of time during which it needs to break down, and during that time if other non-target organisms come into contact with it, they can succumb to the active ingredient. Another method of treating a fire ant hill is to use a drench, which is a combination of pesticide and water that is poured directly onto the hill. Vander Meer explained, Those two methods require large amounts of insecticide. Photo: Doug MahoneyTerro Liquid Ant Bait is effective, easy to use, widely available, relatively safe, and almost unanimously recommended by homeowners. If that doesn't work, call a pro.\$15* from Amazon (pack of two)*At the time of publication, the price was \$13.For most ants found in your home, we recommend getting some Terro T300 Liquid Ant Bait. Terro uses borax as the active ingredient, which has successfully proven against ants and is not as harmful to humans and pets as some of the other pesticides out there. It's a sweet bait, which should attract most indoor ants, and the Terro bait station is clear plastic, so it's easy to monitor ant activity and see how much bait is left. It's something we can't say to much of the competition. Of all the products we've looked at, Terro has by far the most anecdotal evidence backing it up with video reviews and customer feedback indicating that people are using them successfully. During our own casual testing, we watched ants walk past two other borax-based bait and line up to feast on Terro. Lastly, Terro has a very wide spread and should be easily available at a moments notice either in a nearby box store or local hardware store. Terro kills ants with a 5.4 percent solution of borax (sodium-tetraborate desahydrate). Terro's Clark explained that once a nant ingests it, the toxins stop their ability to consume and process food. Death is a slow process, giving the ants time to return to the colony to share the food with the young and eventually the Queen. Borax (and boric acid) has a known record against ants, and at least one study that Terro used specifically concluded that it was one of the four baits that liven up the highest deaths. Borax isn't unique to Terro, and other companies like Amdro and Rockwell Labs are using it, too. Terro's bait is a sweet liquid, pouring the widest net to attract domestic ants. These include small black ants, odorous house ants, Argentine ants, pharaoh ants, white-footed ants, and acrobat That it is a liquid can also offer other benefits. One study determined that liquid bait has an advantage over gels because they provide moisture and also exploit the natural nutritional habits of honeydew collect ants. exploit. Study also suggests that boric acid (which is slightly different from borax) can disrupt the ants ability to regulate water, causing the ants to ingress more of the bait to counter dehydration. Borax is a relatively safe chemical to have around the house. The EPA considers it low in acute toxicity, and Terro's Clark explained that the borax that is in the product is the same chemical compound as 20 Mule Team Borax, which can be used for laundry detergent and household cleaning. There is anecdotal evidence that no lasting damage will come as a dog or cat ining some of the borax bait. During our own use, the Terro Liquid Ant Bait was clearly the most effective option. Photo: Doug MahoneyThe Terro bait station is clear plastic (except the sticker label at the top) for easy monitoring of ant activity and the amount of remaining bait. With opaque lure stations, like those of Raid, Fights and Pic, it's impossible and you can just sit there, hoping it works. To activate the bait station, you just break down the cap piece and put it down. It's very simple. There is a tremendous amount of anecdotal evidence around the effectiveness of Terro. We have a wide range of positive video reviews that show success with Terro baiting. Texas A&M; M's Puckett told us he heard all the time. He added: From what I understand, it's excellent and people really rely on it. I get a lot of feedback ... people call me and tell me what works and I hear about this Terro bait. Compared to the competition, their retailer feedback ratings are much higher. We did our own little test when our ants arrived in the kitchen. We outlined Terro and two other borax-based bait at two different houses and watched as the ants walked right through the other two and lined up on Terro. In one of the houses there must have been 20 to 30 ants crawling across the bait station. It was gross, but we're not going to lie, it was also a bit satisfying. The main disadvantage of the Terro-ant bait is that the bait itself is a liquid, allowing it to spill out of the bait station. Ramsey said that he takes that into account when choosing a bait for a specific location. If I put [the bait] down somewhere where my son might grab it and throw it around, he said, I'm not going to get one that's full of liquid. Even just picking up a Terro bait station the wrong way will spill it. Cleanup can be done with hot water and a paper towel (it's like cleaning maple syrup), and if you're aware of where the ant opening is and you're careful, dumplings should be rare. Photo: Doug MahoneyAlthough it has a similarly active baiting ingredient as Terro, Amdro's version is harder to use, and people don't noise about it like the Terro products. If Terro Liquid Ant Bait is not available, we recommend Amdro Kills Ants Ant Killer. It has of the same characteristics that make Terro so successful: It uses borax as the active ingredient, it is a liquid bait, and it comes in a Container. The disadvantages are that to create an opening for the ants, a small plug must be removed from above, such as a wine cork. The process is harder than it should be and on one occasion we splashed some of the bait on our hands. Amdro also doesn't have the wide-range anecdotal evidence to back it up, as Terro does. In our own small-scale testing, the ants preferred Terro. Our experience is consistent with this reviewer who wrote: It seems that when presented with the 'Pepsi Challenge' of Amdro versus Terro side by side, the ants prefer Terro. Photo: Doug MahoneyAdvion Fire Ant baiting can kill a fire ant colony within a few days and can be broadcast over your yard for seasonal management.*At the time of publication, the price was \$43.As you fire ants, we recommend Advion Fire Ant Bait. Every fire ant expert we talked to recommended indoxacarb, and that's the active ingredient here. This is a very fast acting poison bait that can be applied to individual hills or broadcast over your yard, making it the only product necessary for all your fire ant needs. When asked about the active ingredients available for fire nests, Vander Meer said, The most efficient is indoxacarb. And Puckett said something similar. One of our fastest ant baiting active ingredients is called indoxacarb, he said, goes on to explain that in a number of days it could wipe out a colony, where hydramethylnon [another leading active ingredient] is much slower, taking a matter of weeks in many cases to kill a colony. He told us that the first time he used indoxacarb, he couldn't believe how quickly it worked. A number of studies have proven indoxacarb's unique combination of speed and efficiency. In one, indoxacarb has faster efficiency than the four active ingredients it has been tested against, which needs just six days to achieve 100 percent control of the fire ant population. Other active ingredients were either slower (hydramethylnon reached 100 percent on day 12 and fipronil, day 28) or they simply never reached full control (Lambda-cyhalothrin and bifenthrin). Another study noted that [indoxacarb] controls foraging within a day or two and also eliminates most colonies with a single, broadcast-applied application. Similar results can be found in a third study, from the Journal of Economic Entomology. A single fire ant hill takes 4 tablespoons to treat Advion. Photo: Doug MahoneyAdvion, like most fire ant bait, is granular, made up of corn grit and sprayed with a mixture of soybean oil and indoksacarb. It can be used both to treat a single hill or as a broadcast across your entire yard. Puckett generally recommends a broadcasting application in the fall and individual treatments in the spring and as needed. To treat an individual hill, just 4 tablespoons of Advion spill near the hill. Indoxsacarb is the EPA is rated as a reduced risk pesticide. They say, It has moderate to low acute and chronic toxicity and does not cause Carcinogens, developmental or reproductive effects. Adding further to this generally low risk is the fact that it probably won't be on your lawn for all that very long. Puckett explained, If you have fire ants, they're extraordinary in terms of their foraging efficiency, so they'll find [the bait], they'll take it back to their hill, we don't have to worry so much about non-target effects on non-target organisms. However, children and pets should be removed from the area during broadcast and should be kept clear, as hills are treated individually. The disadvantages of Advion Fire Ant Bait are that it is not available in small quantities, and it is pricier than the products that target indoor nuisance ants. But as Vander Lake told us, dealing with fire ants is going to be an ongoing event. If you're in fire ant territory, they're just going to keep coming back. He explained, If you treat your yard and get rid of the fire ants and your neighbors don't, then the fire ants are going to migrate from your neighbor's yard into the evacuated space. Also, if you have fire ants you can choose to broadcast it over your yard and so you will need the larger amount for that. Advion Fire Ant Bait comes in a 2-pound container, which is enough to treat an acre. Individual hills require about 4 tablespoons, so depending on your approach, you can have a few (or quite a bit) left over. Further complex things are the fact that, over time the soybean oil will go rancid and fire ants will no longer be attracted to the bait. Puckett's recommendation is to buy no more than you can in a season: Don't have it stock because it's for sale. An Advion representative told us that it should have a shelf life of five years if sealed. We tend to deal with Puckett's recommendation, but if you store it for an extended period of time, we suggest getting a close eye on efficiency and be willing to buy more if it goes bad. The T300 Terro Liquid Ant Bait is the most convenient choice for generals to be used around the house, but the bait is also sold in a little pressure bottle. So if you only see ants in a place where the lure station doesn't fit, you can apply a few drops of bait to a piece of cardboard or, as Ramsey suggested, a bottle cap and outline it. Terro also sells outdoor clock stations (1806 and T1812) that can be discontinued on the ground for more security. These other options all include the same borax-based bait. Terro's T303 Ant Bait is the same as our choice, except you have to cut them open rather than tee down a piece. Terro no longer manufactures them, but they are still available in stores and will have the same efficiency as the T300s. Maggie's Farm No-Spill Ant Kill (also sold as InTice Gelanimo Ant Bait) is another borax-based option in a clear station, but this one is a gel, so it won't shower if hitting or picking up local station. Cisse Spragins, owner and CEO of Rockwell Labs, told us that the gel allows more ants feed simultaneously and they will not drown in the bait, as they can with liquid bait. The main downside is that it's harder to find online, but there's an extensive list of brick-and-mortar retailers where it should be available. For indoor ant solutions, there are plenty of other products out there—including Raid Max Double Control Ant Bait, Raid Ant Bait Lii, Combat Max Ant Murder Bait Stations, Combat Ant Murder Bait, Pic Ant Killer Bait—but no one has the combination of a clear bait station, efficiency, and low toxicity that terro Terro T334 Multi Surface Liquid Ant Bait is opaque, which we didn't like. They come with clinging strips so they can be stuck to a wall. Each bait station has a brown side and a white side to help them mix. Hot Shot MaxAttrax Ant Bait contains indoxacarb, the toxins that prove to be so effective with fire ants. However, the bait station is opaque and we feel confident about Terro's effectiveness. Advion's Ant Bait stations also use indoxacarb, and they're semi-evident, but they only come in a pack of 30 and are intended for professionals. Hot shot Ultra Liquid Ant Bait uses a clear bait station and Dinotefuran as the active ingredient. This was typically priced higher than the rest and we couldn't find any substantial evidence, scientific or anecdotal, which showed that it's a better option than Terro. We also dismissed any products that only come in straight gel or liquid form. They include Raid Ant Gel, Combat Max Ant Killing Gel, Advion Ant Gel, and Optigard Ant Gel Bait. With no location, it's less user-friendly. If you do have a tight spot where you can't fit a bait station, we'd recommend Terro T200 Liquid Ant Killer II. For fire ants, we dismissed Amdro's Ant Block Perimeter Ant Bait because it uses hydramethylnon, which takes longer to work than Advion's indoxacarb. Ortho's Fire Ant Killer Mound Bait uses indoxacarb, but at a much lower concentration, so it's just fine for hill treatment and not as a broadcast application. We didn't bother to test any homemade borax-based bait, although there's no shortage of online recipes. This blogger made and tested five different concoctions and concluded that, None of the home had Borax ant killers remedies were as effective as the Terro Ant Bait. Oh, and one more thing. Don't pour gasoline on a fire ant hill. It's a terrible idea and you just ask for trouble. Doug Mahoney is a senior staff writer at Wirecutter covering home improvement. He has 10 years in high-end construction as a carpenter, foreman and supervisor. He lives in a very demanding 250-year-old farmhouse and spent four years gutting and rebuilding his previous home. He also raises sheep and has a dairy cow that he buys every morning.by Ganda SuthivarakomIn this week's Milk: It's almost officially summer, which for many people means the start of battles with entomologically enemies.by Doug MahoneyHere's best gear for killing flies and other common household pests.by pests.by SuthivarakomIn this week's newsletter: Summer is around the corner, and we have new sunscreen recommendations to safely soak up the sun. Safe.

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