Unit 207: Food safety

# Handout 4: Pest control

**How to deny pests access to food areas**

Most common food pests enter food areas to search out food and warmth and shelter.

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Signs of pest infestation:

* droppings
* smell
* smear marks
* pupae cases
* larvae
* damaged/gnawed packaging
* food spillages.

To make sure that they cannot enter or survive in food areas you should:

* check pests do not arrive with deliveries
* use fly screens on windows
* keep doors and windows closed as far as is possible
* carry out regular checks to find possible entry routes
* pay attention to external waste areas
* keep lids on all bins at all times
* clean as you go: do not allow waste to accumulate
* do not leave used equipment lying around
* ensure all food is put away or refrigerated overnight
* check dry foods are stored in tightly lidded containers
* ensure a good regime of cleaning is adhered to
* carry out regular checks of all storage areas and rooms
* empty kitchen and preparation areas bins regularly throughout the day.