

4 COMMON HOMEOWNER MISTAKES TO AVOID

1. DO-IT-YOURSELF PEST CONTROL

Sprays, powders, and other products purchased off the shelf at Home Depot, Lowes, etc. can only hide your bug problems, while they get worse. Using these products can make household pests disappear from sight, but not from your house. Also, professional pest control service providers do have access to stronger materials than you do. “Do-it-yourself” may save you money in the short-term, but it will allow your problem to multiply and ultimately cost you more.

2. USING UNQUALIFIED PEST CONTROL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Make sure that the pest control company you use is Certified by the Department of Agriculture and can show you documents to prove it—this Certification is EARNED, and cannot be bought. Further, consider issues such as number of years in business and experience, training, licensing and bonding of technicians.

3. RELYING ON THE “BRAND NAME” OF A BIG NATIONAL COMPANY—AND NOT READING THE “FINE PRINT” ON THEIR CONTRACTS

Refer to separate sheet, enclosed titled: FACTS ABOUT “BIG NAME” NATIONAL PEST CONTROL COMPANIES. Note: be very careful NOT to sign long-term or continuing service contracts not backed by straightforward guarantees you fully understand.

4. NOT GETTING COMPLETE, THOROUGH, PROFESSIONAL PEST AND TERMITE INSPECTIONS FOR YOUR HOME.

Florida is such a “bug area” it is simply dangerous to go without these inspections. We recommend getting these inspections once every year, or twice, then continuously as part of regular pest control service—but not that few companies automatically include continuous re-inspection in their service. FAILURE TO HAVE YOUR HOME PROFESSIONALLY INSPECTED CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS PEST INFESTATIONS THAT MAY REQUIRE VERY COSTLY, EXTREME REMEDIES (SUCH AS TENT FUMIGATION, FOR EXAMPLE).

Thank you for your company's wonderful service and standing behind what you claim. One thing for sure, I have not had a problem with ants of any kind, since my first day of service.

In the past, I'd hired Orkin to get rid of the pharaoh ants when I was renting a condo in Tampa. They'd distributed little ant-buttons where the ants were streaming up the walls and in the ceiling. A month went by and still the pharaoh ants inhabited my little condo. When I complained about the situation, the Orkin representative's response was to tell me I needed to learn patience that it would take time. I finally came to the opinion that a person living had to make certain concessions to live here...one being that you had to cohabitate with the pharaoh ants.

When I had my new home built a couple years ago, I started having a problem with pharaoh ants right away. There were also fire ant hills in my yard, where they munched away on the new flowers I'd lovingly planted. I knew better than to call Orkin again. I'd come to the decision that business people just don't have the ethics they used to have. Then I met you, Chet. Thank God. You presented yourself with the integrity and business ethics of my late Dad. He stood by his word and when he said something, you could "take it to the bank."

I'm so thankful I decided to give Chet's Pest Control a chance. Now, my new villa is bug-free and I never have to worry about my cat coming in contact with any kind of dangerous chemicals. The bi-monthly appointments are arranged around my busy work schedule. Your employees have always been highly professional, friendly, and helpful. They always have a smile and are willing to give or receive a friendly chuckle in addition to their patient assistance.

Again, thank you, Chet. For restoring my faith in Florida businesses, and delivering such high-quality service. I'm hopeful to find other business people with your integrity.

Diana Mullinax