

Rat



There are 3 main species of rats and mice that are of significance in the United States. They are the **Roof Rat** or tree Rat, the **Norway Rat** or ground rat, and the **House Mouse**. Of course there are lots of other species such as field mice, field rats, wharf rats, sewer rats, etc.. but the Roof Rats, Norway Rats and the House Mouse are the ones of primary importance and the ones that homeowners and building owners deal with 90% of the time. Rats are generally distinguished from mice by their size; rats generally have bodies longer than 5 inches. Rats can carry a number of diseases and parasites.

Rats are animals that are capable of crawling, climbing, and chewing its way into your home or business. They can flatten themselves out and squeeze through the smallest of openings, even under closed doors. If the hole is not big enough, they can easily chew it or gnaw it to a large enough size so that they can get through. Generally, if a rodent can squeeze its head through an opening, (most rodents' heads are the size of a quarter or smaller), it will eventually get through. This is why your strategy for rat or mice control always starts on the outside of the structure.



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