

# Woodworm Control

## Problem

Woodworm is a collective term used to describe wood-boring insects that lay their eggs in wood and timbers, and can cause serious structural damage throughout their life cycle. Their attacks are varied, dependant on the type of beetle and its lifespan, so accurate identification by a surveyor is key to ensuring the correct treatment.

## Solution

The first step is a survey from one of our professional surveyors to locate the infestation, identify accurately the species involved and determine whether it is active or not. Once an active woodworm infestation has been positively identified our Insectasure service for treating bare wood can commence.

In some properties, it may be necessary to lift floorboards and gain access to roof voids. In many cases, areas requiring treatment are obscured by an accumulation of dust and old building debris, these must all be cleaned before treatment. Roof insulation will also need to be lifted to gain access to the timbers.

Insectasure is then used to treat the timbers, eliminating beetles and larvae within the infected area.

## Features & Benefits

- Modern, water-based micro emulsion insecticide, the solution will remain within the layers of timber, in any cracks and flight holes to prevent future infestations
- Our low odour, low hazard and HSE approved solution, allows treated rooms to be reoccupied just one hour after treatment has dried, minimising disruption to you
- Our 20 year guarantee offers you peace of mind



# Wood boring insects

## Insect Identification - the first essential step

### Common Furniture Beetle

*(Anobium punctatum)*

Responsible for about 75% of all woodworm damage to property, attacking both soft and hard woods. The adult beetle is approx 3mm long and chocolate brown coloured. It is able to fly. Up to 80 eggs are laid and the life cycle averages 3 years.

● flight hole - actual size



### Wood Boring Weevil

*(Euophryum confine)*

Established in post war Britain but already widespread and associated with wet rot decay. The adult is 3-5mm long, blackish brown and identifiable by its long 'snout'. Normally associated with damp timber and appears to have two overlapping life cycles in the year. Flight holes are small 1mm diameter and ragged.

● flight hole - actual size



### Death Watch Beetle

*(Xestobium rufovillosum)*

The most damaging wood borer in old buildings, attacking hardwood and often found in timbers also suffering from fungal decay. Larger than the Common Furniture Beetle at 6 to 8mm long and greyish brown in colour. Its life cycle averages 5 to 6 years. The adult emerges from 4mm diameter round holes and is now known to be capable of flight. Eggs are laid in small clusters.

● flight hole - actual size



### House Longhorn Beetle

*(Hylotrupes bajulus)*

This large insect is found mainly in the southern Home Counties. It attacks only softwood but because of its size and ability to bore extensively through sapwood and into heartwood, the damage caused is rapid and severe. It is greyish brown to black, has a life cycle of 5-11 years and can reach 25mm long. Flight holes are oval up to 9mm by 6mm. Up to 200 eggs are laid.

● flight hole - actual size



## Typical Lifecycle - continual ongoing damage throughout every stage



1

Egg is laid in crevices and open joints in wood.



2

Larval grub bores into wood feeding on cellulose.



3

Larva forms pupation chamber near the surface.



4

After metamorphosis beetle bores out of wood, mates and flies off to lay eggs in fresh wood.

## Woodworm Infestation

Woodworm attacks are varied, both in the type of timber which each species infest, and their life span in the larval stage. The larval stage can range from 10 months to 11 years. Because of this accurate identification by the surveyor is the first step, as not all infestations need treatment.

## Our Treatment Service

On bare wood surfaces Peter Cox technicians will use the latest proven insecticidal formulations that eliminate the insects on contact as they pass through the spray treated timber. Where structurally necessary, heavily infested timbers will be cut away and replaced, or economically repaired by skilled joiners using resin repair techniques.

## Why Peter Cox?

Peter Cox, established in 1951 has over 70 years experience in providing a range of property services. We are the market leader in the preservation of all types of property, from private housing to historic buildings. You can be reassured that you'll not only get the work completed to an extremely high standard, but you'll also benefit from our long term guarantees for timber treatments. We are rated 'Excellent' on Trustpilot and were the first national preservation company to receive Which? Trusted Trader accreditation.

Rated 'Excellent' with over 1750 reviews



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