

The first line of defense against a rodent infestation is to prevent them access or entry into your home.

Remember – If a rodent can get its head through, its body will follow. A rat or mouse can compress its rib cage to squeeze through small openings.

Did you know a mouse can fit through a hole the size of a dime?



The information provided is based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations and guidelines.



Health Department

Vector and Nuisance Control
503-988-3464
www.mchealth.org/vector



**How to
Rodent
Proof
Your
Home**

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Some useful materials to keep rodents out

- steel wool
- window screen
- 1/4 inch hardware cloth (steel mesh)
- sheet metal
- a cutting utensil such as tin snips

Keeping rodents out

Here are 6 easy steps to help prevent a rodent infestation:

- Keep vents tightly screened over with hardware cloth.
- Keep all windows and doors screened or shut.
- Seal openings in the foundation or sides of the house with sheet metal or hardware cloth. Include holes around pipes, conduits, and gas lines.

- Plug holes with steel wool.
- Keep open floor drains and sewer pipes capped.
- Deepen foundation when burrows lead into crawlspace under the foundation.

Help! I already have a rodent in my home

You may choose to enlist the services of a pest control company or do it yourself.

If you choose to control rodents yourself, we recommend snap traps or glue boards. Be sure to read and follow the prescribed directions.

Avoid using poisons (rodenticides) as the rodent can wander off and die in a hard-to-reach area and create an odor.

Remember, rodents in the home are a health risk.

