

Termite Damage

A serious termite infestation can result in major timber damage, with consequently huge repair costs. A frightening aspect of a subterranean infestation is that the termites often flourish undetected until costly damage has already occurred.

Subterranean termites are widespread in warmer countries, causing substantial structural damage in urban areas. Subterranean termites occur in large colonies that live underground and feed on available wood. Termites can enter a structure by tunnelling through wood or by building mud leads over or through cracks in foundation walls.

Signs of Termite Activity

Evidence of subterranean termites may be one or more of the following:

- A sagging door or floor, a warped wall, a hollow sounding beam.
- Discoloured or blistering paint, depressions in wood, moisture collecting in unusual places, springy floors or steps
- Mud shelter tubes (light / dark brown in colour - clay like texture)
- Workings (mud like material) found in wall voids
- Wood Rot (may attract termites)

Why do you need a Termite Inspection?

Subterranean termites are the most destructive timber pests in Australia and pose a real threat to both existing and new homes and buildings.

Termite surveys find that 1 in 3 homes in Australia will be affected by termites at some stage which is more prevalent than damage caused by fire, storm and flood combined.

All too often the presence of these silent invaders goes undetected until the damage is done and many building owners will come to find termite damage is not covered by most home insurance policies.

It is for that reason that the Building Code and Australian Standard for Termite Protection now require for all new homes being built to be protected against the concealed entry of subterranean termites from the ground into the building.

The Standard does advise that even a correctly installed and complete termite barrier system cannot completely guarantee prevention of termite attack as termites can potentially breach or bridge over the barrier. Therefore the Australian Standard for Termite Protection recommends that regular competent inspections be carried out at least once a year or more frequently in areas of higher termite risk or known activity.

A Termite Inspection Report is designed to:

- Detect old damage and active termites.
- Gives you the element of risk of infestation.
- Gives you tips on reducing the chances of termite infestation.
- Gives us enough information to accurately quote you on a termite treatment and to use the most appropriate method.
- Most importantly, educates you about termites.
- Identifies species of termites.

A Termite Inspection is designed to detect termites at an early stage as to reduce the amount of damage to your house. It does not stop termites. It is strongly recommended a termite inspection report is carried out at least once every twelve months and every three to six months for high risk areas.