Common home pesticides and pesticide-treated products

Disinfectants
- Kills bacteria: Bleach
- Anti-viruses: Ammonia
- Kitchen/bathroom cleaners: Toilet bowl cleaners
- Disinfectant aerosols: Tub & tile cleaners
- Pool & spa cleaners: Chlorine

Rodenticides
- Kill rodents and rats: Mouse and rat bait stations
- Flea and tick collars: Flea shampoos
- Ant and roach baits: Ant and roach baits
- Mosquito repellents, bug sprays: Fly strips
- Soap sprays: Hand soap
- Garden dusts: Garden dusts
- Weed-and-feed lawncare products: Weed-and-feed lawncare products
- Cut-stump treatments: Pressure-treated wood
- Paint additives: Paint additives
- Treated seeds: Treated seeds

Insecticides
- Kill unwanted plants: Herbicides
- Insects and fungi: Insecticides
- Protect wood from insects and fungi: Pressure-treated wood
- Insect & disease suppressants: Fungicides
- Holiday treats: Gummy bears and candy

Fungicides
- Kill fungi and mildew: Fungicides
- Wood preservatives: Wood preservatives

Herbicides
- Kill unwanted plants: Herbicides
- Weed killers: Weeds
- Car-portal treatments: Car-wash treatments
- Weed-and-feed lawncare products: Weed-and-feed lawncare products
- Garden dusts: Garden dusts
- Soap sprays: Soaps
- Mosquito repellents, bug sprays: Mosquito repellents
- Ant and roach baits: Ant and roach baits
- Mosquito repellents: Mosquito repellents
- Pool & spa cleaners: Pool & spa cleaners
- Tub & tile cleaners: Tub & tile cleaners
- Disinfectant aerosols: Disinfectant aerosols
- Toilet bowl cleaners: Toilet bowl cleaners
- Kitchen/bathroom cleaners: Kitchen/bathroom cleaners
- Ammonia: Ammonia
- Bleach: Bleach

Now that you know what a pesticide is, are you surprised at how many you can find around your home?

Identifying pesticides is the first step toward proper handling and use of these products.

For more information on pests and pesticides, see other Home PEST brochures or contact your county Cooperative Extension office.

#1 - What is a Pesticide?

How many Pesticides do YOU use? The answer may surprise you!

You likely have many questions about pesticides. This Home PEST brochure, and those that follow, will help you answer those questions.

What is a pesticide? A pesticide is any substance used to directly control pests or to prevent or reduce the damage they cause.

A pest is any living thing that competes with us for food, fiber, or space, or that threatens the health of people or domestic animals.

common pests around the home
- Insects and diseases on lawns, gardens, and landscape plants: Slugs and snails
- Slugs and snails: Slugs and snails
- Weeds: Weeds
- Cockroaches, flies, and mosquitoes: Cockroaches, flies, and mosquitoes
- Ants that infest structures: Ants that infest structures
- Algae and mildew that grow in swimming pools, spas, showers, and water gardens: Algae and mildew
- Clothing moths: Clothing moths
- Pantry pests: Pantry pests
- Rats and mice: Rats and mice
- Fleas and ticks of pets: Fleas and ticks of pets

How to identify a pesticide All pesticide products can be identified by the presence of an EPA registration number. This number is usually located on the front panel of the product.

Before any product can be sold or used as a pesticide, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reviews all necessary data to ensure the product will do what the label says without undue risk to people or the environment.

When these conditions are satisfied, the EPA registers the product and assigns it a registration number.

How to identify a pesticide

The Home PEST project was developed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) program.

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The information presented in these brochures is intended to educate users of pesticidal products and is not intended to substitute for the instructions on the product containers. The user is responsible for following the instructions on the product label in accordance with federal, state, and local laws. Any reference to pesticide products are for your convenience and are not an endorsement or criticism of one product over other similar products.

Home PEST seeks to provide homeowners with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about pesticides.

The Home PEST project is funded by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) through the Pesticide Applicator Training Program (PAT) grant.

This publication is available from your county Cooperative Extension office.

For more information on pests and pesticides, see other Home PEST brochures or contact your county Cooperative Extension office.

Now that you know what a pesticide is, are you surprised at how many you can find around your home?

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