



## DIY Pest Inspection Checklist for Homebuyers

Call Ehrlich for a second opinion if you notice any signs of pest activity.

### Equipment to take with you



#### **BINOCULARS**

(to help you see the roof)



#### **FLASHLIGHT**

(to light up dark spaces)



#### **STEPLADDER**

(to see in high areas)



#### **CAMERA**

(to document your findings)



#### **GLOVES**

(to reduce contamination)



#### **FACE MASK**

(to limit inhaling dust or debris)

### What you may see, hear, or smell

- Live or dead** (insects, rodents, wildlife, birds)
- Droppings** (rodents, cockroaches, wildlife)
- Gnaw marks** (rodents, wildlife)
- Nesting materials** (rodents, birds)
- Greasy rub marks** (rats)
- Overwhelming odor** (dead animal)
- Musty odor** (cockroaches, large insect infestation)
- Noises in walls, ceiling, attic, basement** (rodents, wildlife, birds, bats)
- Mud tunnels running from the ground up** (subterranean termites)
- Small pile of sawdust** (carpenter ants)
- Small pile of wood pellets** (termites)
- Shed wings** (carpenter ants, termites)
- Stinging insect nest** (wasps, hornets, honey bees)
- Perfectly round hole drilled through wood** (carpenter bees)
- Burrows under walkways** (rodents)
- Hollow-sounding wood** (termites, carpenter ants)
- Pest entry points** (holes, gaps, cracks, doors, windows)

### Signs of pest activity and where to look

Use the above checklist to guide you as you inspect specific areas of the home.

- Ceiling** (termites, live insects)
- Attic** (live/dead insects, rodents, wildlife; gnaw marks; droppings; rodent nesting material; stinging insect and bird nests, small piles of wood pellets)
- Baseboards** (Termites, greasy rub marks, live insects)
- Window encasements** (carpenter ants, termites)
- Exterior door frames** (gaps allow for pest entry)
- Screens** (holes in screens or missing screens allow for pest entry)
- Wooden molding** (tap to see if it sounds hollow, signs of termites)
- Wooden stairs/hand railing** (tap to see if it sounds hollow, signs of termites)
- Wooden design elements** (termites, carpenter ants)
- Utility lines** (gnaw marks)
- Plumbing** (gaps around pipes, greasy rub and gnaw marks)
- Flooring** (gaps allow for insects to hide under it)
- Appliances** (droppings, live/dead insects or rodents)
- Fuse box** (live/dead insects)
- Fireplace** (live/dead rodents, birds; nesting materials; stinging insect nests)
- Fireplace flue** (if unable to close, it can allow for pest entry)
- Garage** (stinging insect nests, nesting material, live/dead insects or rodents)
- Garage door** (gaps under the door allow for pest entry)
- Garbage cans** (live/dead insects or rodents, gnaw marks)
- Recycling bins** (live/dead insects or rodents, gnaw marks, droppings)
- Shower/sink drains** (build up of organic material can attract flies and cockroaches)
- Water heater** (droppings, cockroaches, live/dead insects or rodents)
- Vent covers** (gnaw marks, greasy rub marks)
- A/C unit** (live/dead insects or rodents, bird or rodent nesting material)
- Crawl space, basement** (live/dead insects or rodents, gnaw marks, droppings, mud tubes, nesting material)

Relax pest-free. Call 855.226.0075 for help with any pest issues.