

RATS

Eindhoven Municipality regularly receives queries and comments about rats (rodent nuisance). We've gathered together the most important information here in this flyer.

Kinds of rats

Two types of rats are found in Eindhoven: the black rat and the brown rat. They differ in terms of living habits, physical appearance and droppings. The black rat can be either black or brown so it isn't always easy to distinguish between them.

Black rat

The black rat is almost only to be found in and around buildings such as homes and sheds and finds its food both indoors and outside. Examples of this are rabbit hutches, hen houses and dove tills, and around fruit and nut trees and berry bushes.

Brown rat

The brown rat is mainly to be found in the sewage system, near water, allotments and children's farms. They live and eat mostly outdoors.

Health

Rats can transmit infectious diseases through bites or droppings. Luckily, this does not occur frequently, and the risk is significantly smaller if you take precautions. Damp down droppings before you sweep them up and wear gloves if you are going to come in contact with rats or their

droppings. Throw gloves away after use and wash your hands. If you are bitten by a rat, see your family doctor.

What does the municipality do?

The brown rat lives in the vicinity of urban water and the municipality commissions its monitoring. If the rat population becomes too large, the municipality will take action to control brown rat numbers. Eindhoven Municipality takes measures against black rats in buildings which are the property of the municipality. In the public space, the municipality keeps problems with the black rat to a minimum by removing rubbish as quickly as possible. The municipality also informs residents and housing associations about control and prevention of rodent nuisance through such channels as this flyer, the website and home visits.

Report any incidence

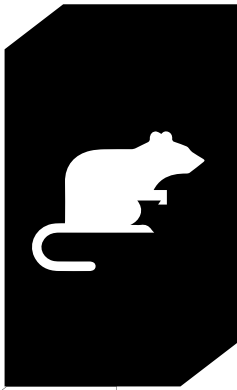
If you see rats, we ask you report it to the municipality. If necessary, following your report, you will receive a free consultation at your home with an advisor from the KAD (knowledge and advice centre for animal infestations) who will offer you free recommendations for control and prevention.



Black rat



Brown rat



WHAT CAN YOU DO? THE TOP 5!

The owner or user of buildings where nuisance from rats is experienced is personally responsible for combating such nuisance. So it's good to know what measures you can take to do so. The measures are mainly aimed at preventing food, shelter and nesting opportunities. Recent research has shown that following these recommendations results in a decrease in the nuisance.



1. Seal up all openings in the home.

For example, gaps under roof tiles, butt joints (seal with grates or steel wool) or windows (top-hung) (seal with fine mesh or steel wool). Don't forget to replace ventilation grates with stainless steel ones with smaller openings (<0.5 cm).



2. Organise sheds, gazebos and storage spaces made of wood and other materials in such a way that they don't offer any shelter or nesting opportunities.



3. Prune shrubs and vegetation on fences and walls short so that rats cannot hide in them and build nests.



4. Remove any food such as fruits, nuts and seeds from the garden.

It's also best not to leave bird food or other animal feed in your garden overnight. It's also better not to feed (water)birds in the park or along the canal. This also attracts rats.



5. Remove from the garden any possibility of drinking water.

For example, by covering the pond with fine mesh and emptying any water bowls for birds and other animals at night.

Whichever action you take, do take it together with your neighbours. Only concerted action will help to keep rat numbers and the nuisance to a minimum.

For more information or reports about rats

Go to eindhoven.nl, phone telephone number 14040 or use the BuitenBeter app.