

# vergo

## Ants Help sheet



### TOP TIPS TO PREVENT AN ANT INFESTATION

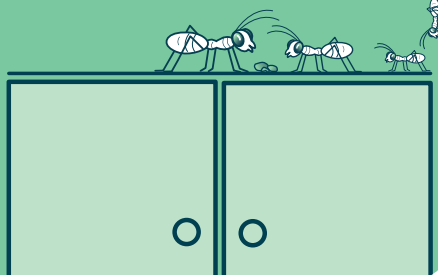
- ▶ **Eliminate Food Sources:** Keep food stored in airtight containers and clean up crumbs or spills straight away.
- ▶ **Seal Entry Points:** Block gaps around doors, windows, and pipes where ants might enter.
- ▶ **Maintain Cleanliness:** Regularly vacuum and wipe surfaces to remove food particles and pheromone trails.
- ▶ **Monitor Moisture Levels:** Repair leaks and avoid areas with standing water, as ants are drawn to moisture.

Ants are common household pests that can quickly become a nuisance if left unchecked.

In the UK, two frequently encountered species are the garden ant and the pharaoh ant. While garden ants are generally harmless, pharaoh ants pose a greater challenge due to their ability to spread pathogens through contaminated food or surfaces.

### Did you know...

Ants are **masters of communication and organisation!** Using pheromones, they create precise trails to guide their colony to food and back to the nest.



### Common ant species

#### GARDEN ANT

- ▶ **Size and Colour:** Worker ants are 4–6mm, they are black or dark brown. Also known as the common black ant.
- ▶ **Habitat:** Nests are found in gardens, dry soil, paving stones, brickwork, or lawns.
- ▶ **Colony Size:** Colonies house thousands of workers led by a single queen.
- ▶ **Diet:** Omnivorous, feeding on small insects, nectar, seeds, and sugary substances.



- ▶ **Health Risk:** Generally harmless but can be a nuisance when foraging for food indoors.
- ▶ **Infestation Challenges:** Attracted to sugary foods, they often enter properties in summer seeking food.

#### PHARAOH ANT

- ▶ **Size and Colour:** Worker ants are 1.5-2mm, they are light yellow to reddish-brown.
- ▶ **Habitat:** Thrive in warm indoor environments nesting near food and water sources.
- ▶ **Colony Size:** Up to 300,000 individuals with multiple queens.
- ▶ **Diet:** Omnivorous, feeding on sweets, proteins, fats, and occasionally blood and wound dressings in hospitals.



- ▶ **Health Risk:** Can spread pathogens through contaminated food or surfaces.
- ▶ **Infestation Challenges:** Avoid DIY sprays, as they can worsen infestations by causing colonies to split (budding).

At Vergo, we will tailor our solution to meet your needs



Scan me  
to learn more

or visit <https://vergo.uk/pest-control/insects/ants/>



If you have an issue with ants,  
call **0344 335 0330** or visit **vergo.uk**

The future of pest management