

## Prevention Is the Best Cure

The common mistake everyone makes is that they start looking for ways out, when the problem has occurred. In order to prevent ant infestation, keep to the following tips: Keep your house clean, especially the kitchen, as ants get attracted by food sources. Cover attracting substance tightly and clean the furniture surface. Sweep the floor after meals, even little messes can attract ants. Always cover the foods you don't hide in fridge. Never leave dirty dishes in the sink. Wash them up after each meal. Keep trash cans and bins far from your house. Take the trash out every day. Don't allow moisture to accommodate on counters and other surfaces, as ants keep looking for water out wherever they can find it and stay near its sources.

### Chalk

Keep ants at bay by drawing a line around home entry points. The ants will be repelled by the calcium carbonate in the chalk, which is actually made up of ground-up and compressed shells of marine animals.

Scatter powdered chalk around garden plants to repel ants

### Flour

Sprinkle a line of flour along the backs of pantry shelves and wherever you see ants entering the house. Repelled by the flour, ants won't cross over the line.

### Flowerpots

Place the flowerpot upside down over the anthill. Pour boiling water through the drain hole.

### Lemons

First squirt some lemon juice on door thresholds and windowsills. Then squeeze lemon juice into any holes or cracks where the ants are getting in.

Finally, scatter small slices of lemon peel around the outdoor entrance. Simply mix the juice of 4 lemons (along with the rinds) with 1/2 gallon (2 liters) water and wash your floors with it. You can also blend water and citrus peelings in a food processor or blender. Lemon peelings are the most effective.

## Oranges

**In a blender, make a smooth puree of a few orange peels in 1 cup warm water. Slowly pour the solution over and into anthills.**

## Pepper

- Ants are looking for sugar. Give them some pepper instead. Cayenne pepper sprinkled in spots where the ants are looking, such as along the backs of your countertops or on your baseboards, will tell them that no sugar is ahead.
- If you find the ants' home colony a little too close to yours and it is causing them to relocate to your kitchen, cayenne pepper can help get rid of it. Pour the pepper down the ant hole and say so long to ants. If you don't manage to find the nest, you can sprinkle cayenne pepper near the opening where ants enter your home. This is the most effective natural repellent.

## Plastic Containers

Place a plastic container on the bottom of each picnic table leg. Fill with water. The ants won't be able to crawl past.

## Salt

If ants are beating a path to your home, intercept them by sprinkling salt across the door frame or directly on their paths.

Ants will be discouraged from crossing this barrier.

## Talcum Powder

For an effective organic ant repellent, scatter talcum powder liberally around house foundations and known points of entry, such as doors and windows. Other effective organic repellents include cream of tartar, borax, powdered sulfur, and oil of cloves. You can also try planting mint around the house

## Vinegar

Pour equal parts water and white vinegar into a spray bottle. Then spray it on anthills and around areas where you see the insects. Ants hate the smell of vinegar. Also keep the spray bottle handy for outdoor trips or to keep ants away from picnic or children's play areas. If you have lots of anthills around your property, try pouring full-strength vinegar over them to hasten the bugs' departure.

The safest homemade remedy is a mixture of water and white vinegar. Spray the substance along the paths of the ants that are coming to your place.

Other effective products are cinnamon, pepper, strong perfumes, cream of tartar, tea tree oil, etc. Mixing them with water and spraying all around, you will get rid of ants in a few days. Knowing how to get rid of ants' population in the house you prevent their armies from destroying the peace of your home.