

No Mouse In This House: The Complete Canadian Homeowner's Guide to Mouse Control – Updated 2026 Edition

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Quick overview: This updated 2026 guide provides Canadian homeowners with essential information on mouse control and prevention.

- **Chapter 1** – Understanding mice
- **Chapter 2** – Prevention strategies
- **Chapter 3** – Natural methods
- **Chapter 4** – Traps that work
- **Chapter 5** – When to call pros
- **Chapter 6** – Safety
- **Chapter 7** – Myths busted
- **Chapter 8** – Seasonal actions
- **Chapter 9** – Long-term upkeep

Immediate steps: Do a quick perimeter check, seal obvious gaps, secure food, set traps in problem areas, and schedule monthly inspections.

Who this helps: Homeowners with first sightings, recurring problems, safety concerns, or anyone wanting long-term prevention.

Why this update matters: Reflects 2026 trends—climate impact, new tech, updated regulations, and Alberta-specific tips.

Mice are an inevitable challenge for Canadian homeowners, but with the right strategies, you can maintain a mouse-free home year-round.

This comprehensive guide provides everything you need to identify, prevent, and eliminate **mouse problems in Canadian homes**. We'll cover what works, what doesn't, and when to call for backup.

Chapter 1: Understanding the Mice in Your Home

The Two Types You'll Actually Encounter

Understanding the behavior and characteristics of mice is crucial to effective control, as it allows you to anticipate their actions and prevent infestations.

1. **House Mouse** – Your Most Common Invader

What do they look like? Small bodies, about 3-4 inches long. Light brown to gray fur with a lighter belly. Those big ears aren't just cute – they help them hear danger coming.

Why are they called house mice? Because they prefer living with humans. Your warm home beats a cold field every time.

2. **Deer Mouse** – The Sneaky Rural Visitor

How can you tell the difference? Deer mice are slightly larger and have distinctive white feet. Their tails are dark on top, white underneath – like they're wearing tiny socks.

Where do you find them? More common in rural areas and homes near wooded lots. But don't assume city homes are safe – deer mice adapt quickly.

Why Your Home Attracts Mice

Think about what mice need to survive—food, water, warmth, and safe places to raise babies. Your house provides all four.

Food sources mice love:

- Crumbs under appliances
- Pet food left in bowls overnight
- Pantry items in cardboard or thin plastic
- Birdseed spilled near feeders
- Grease buildup behind stoves

Perfect mouse real estate:

- Cluttered basements and garages
- Spaces behind appliances
- Insulation in walls and attics
- Storage boxes with soft materials

- Areas near heat sources

One mouse can squeeze through a gap the size of a dime. That's much smaller than most people realize.

Early Warning Signs You Can't Ignore

Catching mice early makes everything easier and cheaper. But how do you spot the first signs?

Droppings Tell the Whole Story

Fresh mouse droppings look like small black rice grains. They're soft when fresh, hard and gray when old. Find them near food sources, along walls, or in quiet corners.

How many droppings indicate a problem? Even one dropping means mice are present. A handful suggests multiple mice or established activity.

Gnaw Marks Reveal Their Paths

Mice's teeth never stop growing, so they chew constantly. Look for tiny tooth marks on:

- Food packaging and cardboard boxes
- Wooden furniture legs or baseboards
- Plastic containers and lids
- Electrical wire insulation (fire hazard!)

Fresh gnaw marks appear light-colored. Older ones darken over time.

Sounds That Confirm Suspicions

When do mice make noise? Most active during dawn and dusk hours. Listen for:

- Scratching sounds in the walls
- Scurrying across floors or ceilings
- Squeaking or chattering (usually means babies)

Where do these sounds come from? Follow the noise – it leads to nests or entry points.

Nests Mean They're Staying

What do mouse nests look like? Messy piles of soft materials – shredded paper, fabric, insulation, or dried grass. Often tucked in quiet, warm spots like closets or behind appliances.

Finding a nest with babies? This indicates established breeding—time for immediate action.

Chapter 2: Preventing Mice from Entering Your Home

Building on your understanding of mice, prevention is your first line of defense. It's cheaper, safer, and more effective than dealing with infestations.

Seal Entry Points Like a Pro

Where do mice actually get in? Most homeowners miss the real entry points while focusing on obvious holes.

Foundation Level Inspection

Start at ground level and work your way up. Look for:

- Cracks where concrete meets wood siding
- Gaps around utility pipes entering your home
- Spaces under deck attachments
- Worn concrete around the basement windows

The Steel Wool + Caulk Method

Why does this work so well? Mice can chew through most materials, but steel wool tears up their mouths. Here's the proper technique:

1. Stuff steel wool tightly into the hole
2. Apply exterior-grade caulk over the steel wool
3. Smooth the caulk surface to prevent water penetration
4. Check seasonally for cracks or gaps

Door and Window Weak Points

Most homes have mouse highways right at the entry doors. Check these spots:

- Bottom door sweeps (replace if you see light underneath)
- Weather stripping around door frames
- Window screen tears or loose corners
- Garage door seals (the biggest overlooked entry point)

Can mice climb to upper floors? Absolutely. They're excellent climbers, so check second-story windows and roof areas too.

Remove What Attracts Them

Food Storage That Actually Works

Cardboard and thin plastic won't stop determined mice. What will?

- Glass containers with tight lids
- Metal canisters with rubber seals
- Thick plastic containers (Rubbermaid-style)
- Refrigerator storage for opened packages

How long can mice survive without food? Only 2-4 days. Cut off their food supply, and they'll move on or become easier to trap.

The Pet Food Problem

Do you leave pet food out overnight? This feeds every mouse in the neighborhood. The better practice is:

- Scheduled feeding times only
- Remove pet food bowls when pets finish eating
- Store dry food in metal containers
- Clean up spills immediately

Declutter for Mouse Control

Why do cluttered areas attract mice? They provide perfect hiding spots and nesting materials. Focus on these areas:

Basement organization:

- Store items in plastic bins with tight-fitting lids.
- Keep storage away from walls.
- Eliminate cardboard boxes.
- Create clear pathways for easy inspection.

Garage maintenance:

- Remove piles of newspapers, magazines, or cardboard.
- Store seasonal items in sealed containers.
- Keep tools and equipment organized.
- Sweep regularly to remove debris.

Smart Yard Management

Your yard affects indoor mouse problems more than you think.

Vegetation Control

How close is too close? Keep all plants at least 3 feet from your home's foundation. This eliminates mouse highways and hiding spots.

What about attractive landscaping? You can have both beauty and pest control:

- Choose plants that mice dislike (lavender, mint, marigolds).
- Use gravel or mulch barriers near foundations.
- Trim tree branches away from the roof lines.
- Remove overgrown shrubs touching your house.

The Firewood Factor

Where should you store firewood? At least 20 feet from your house and elevated off the ground. Firewood piles create perfect mouse condominiums.

Stack firewood properly:

- Use a rack or pallets for elevation
- Allow air circulation between pieces
- Cover the top only (sides need airflow)
- Rotate stock regularly – use the oldest wood first

Chapter 3: Natural Mouse Control Methods That Actually Work

Natural methods don't always work, but some do when used correctly.

Scent-Based Deterrents

Peppermint Oil Reality Check

Does peppermint oil really repel mice? In small doses and for short periods, yes. But it's not a magic solution.

How to use it properly:

- Soak cotton balls in pure peppermint oil (not diluted).
- Place near suspected entry points.
- Replace every 2-3 days as the scent fades.
- Combine with other methods for the best results.

What doesn't work? Peppermint oil alone won't solve established infestations. Use it as part of a bigger strategy.

Other Natural Scents

Which smells do mice actually avoid?

- Strong mint varieties (spearmint, wintergreen)
- Clove oil (very potent – use sparingly)
- Ammonia-soaked rags (keep away from children/pets)
- Used cat litter (if you have cats)

Sound Repellent Truth

Ultrasonic Devices – The Real Story

Do ultrasonic repellents work? Sort of, but not how you'd expect.

What actually happens:

- Mice may avoid the area initially.
- They adapt to the sound within days.
- Furniture and walls block ultrasonic waves.
- Effects vary greatly between brands.

Best use for ultrasonic devices? As temporary measures while you implement other solutions. Don't rely on them as your only defense.

The Cat Factor

Will getting a cat solve your mouse problem? Maybe, but not completely.

Why cats aren't perfect mousers:

- Many house cats have lost hunting instincts.
- Well-fed cats may ignore mice.
- Mice hide in spaces cats can't reach.
- Some cats are afraid of mice (yes, really!).

When cats do help:

- Outdoor cats deter mice from approaching your home.
- The smell of cat urine can repel mice.
- Active hunters can catch individual mice.

Don't get a cat just for mouse control. But if you already have one, it might provide some benefit.

Chapter 4: Traditional Mouse Control Methods That Work

When prevention isn't enough, these proven methods safely and effectively eliminate existing mice.

Snap Traps – Still the Gold Standard

Why do old-fashioned snap traps work so well? They're fast, humane, reusable, and don't pose ongoing safety risks.

Choose the Right Snap Traps

Not all snap traps work equally well. Look for these features:

- Metal construction (plastic breaks easily)
- Sensitive trigger mechanisms
- Easy-set designs (safer for your fingers)
- Appropriate size for house mice

How many traps do you need? More than you think. Use 6-10 traps for average-sized homes, placed where you've seen activity.

Baiting Strategies That Actually Work

Forget cheese – it's not the best mouse bait. What works better?

Top baits ranked by effectiveness:

1. **Peanut butter** – sticky, aromatic, hard to steal.
2. **Chocolate chips** – sweet smell travels far.
3. **Dried fruit** – raisins or dates work well.
4. **Bacon bits** – strong scent attracts from a distance.
5. **Marshmallows** – a sticky and sweet combination.

How much bait should you use? Just a small dab. Too much lets mice eat without triggering the trap.

Trap Placement That Gets Results

Where exactly should you place traps? Along walls where mice travel, with the trigger end facing the wall.

Why do mice travel along walls? They have poor eyesight but excellent senses of touch and smell. Walls provide guidance and safety.

Strategic locations for traps:

- Behind appliances where you've seen droppings.
- In cabinets under kitchen sinks.
- Along the basement walls.
- Near entry points you've identified.
- In closets where you've found evidence.

Check traps daily and reset immediately after catches.

Electronic Traps – Modern Convenience

Are electronic traps worth the extra cost? For some situations, absolutely.

Advantages of electronic traps:

- No blood or mess to clean up.
- Indicator lights show when triggered.
- Battery-powered (no electrical cords required).
- Safer around children and pets.
- Easy disposal system.

When to choose electronic over snap traps:

- High-traffic areas in your home.
- When children or pets might encounter traps.
- If you're squeamish about traditional traps.
- For vacation homes, you don't check frequently.

How long do batteries last? Most quality electronic traps handle 20-30 kills per battery set.

Live Traps – Humane but Complicated

Do live traps work for mouse control? Yes, but they create new challenges.

The relocation reality:

- Mice must be released at least 2 miles away.
- Many relocated mice die from stress or territorial conflicts.
- Some areas restrict where you can release trapped animals.
- Disease transmission risk increases with handling.

Best practices for using live traps:

- Check traps every few hours (mice stress quickly).
- Release immediately after capture.
- Use gloves when handling traps.
- Choose release sites away from other homes.
- Consider that relocation often equals a death sentence.

What About Glue Traps?

We strongly recommend against glue traps for mice. Here's why:

Inhumane aspects:

- Mice die slowly from stress and exhaustion.
- They may chew off their own limbs trying to escape.
- Death can take hours or days.

Practical problems:

- Dangerous around children and pets.
- Difficult disposal process.
- Less effective than other methods.
- May catch non-target animals.

Legal considerations:

- Some jurisdictions restrict glue trap use.
- Professional pest control companies avoid them.
- Animal welfare organizations oppose them.

Better alternatives exist for every situation where someone might consider glue traps.

Chapter 5: When to Call Professional Pest Control Edmonton

While DIY methods can manage minor infestations, there are scenarios where professional expertise is indispensable from the outset.

Clear Signs You Need Professional Help

Structural Damage Indicators

When does property damage indicate serious problems?

- Chewed electrical wires (fire hazard – call immediately).
- Damaged insulation throughout multiple areas.
- Gnaw marks on wooden structural elements.
- Evidence of nesting inside walls or ceilings.

Volume Indicators

How many mice caught indicates the need for professional help?

- More than 5 mice were caught in one week.
- Traps consistently triggered but empty.
- Multiple active nests discovered.
- Sightings during daylight hours (indicates overpopulation).

Failed DIY Attempts

What constitutes adequate DIY effort before calling pros?

- Two weeks of consistent trapping with proper techniques.
- Entry point sealing completed, but mice are still entering.
- Natural deterrents tried without success.
- The problem keeps recurring after apparent elimination.

What Professional Pest Control Provides?

Expertise You Can't Get Elsewhere

What do licensed technicians know that homeowners don't?

- Advanced inspection techniques using specialized tools.
- Identification of entry points missed by untrained eyes.
- Understanding of mouse behavior patterns and seasonal changes.

- Access to professional-grade control products.

Commercial-Grade Solutions

How are professional methods different?

- Industrial-strength sealants last for years rather than months.
- Electronic monitoring systems for early detection.
- Tamper-resistant bait stations for ongoing control.
- Integrated pest management approaches.

Comprehensive Service Approach

What's included in professional mouse control service?

- Initial inspection identifying all problem areas.
- Customized treatment plan for your specific situation.
- Follow-up visits ensure complete elimination.
- Warranty protection backs their work.
- Prevention recommendations specific to your property.

Major Pest Control's Unique Advantages

Local Expertise in Alberta

Why choose local pest control companies?

- Understanding of regional mouse behavior patterns.
- Knowledge of Alberta building codes and entry points.
- Experience with Canadian climate effects on pest activity.
- Rapid response times for Edmonton, Calgary, and Red Deer.

Integrated Treatment Philosophy

How is our approach different?

- A combination of elimination and prevention strategies.
- Family-safe methods prioritizing children and pet safety.
- Ongoing monitoring to prevent re-infestation.
- Customer education ensures long-term success.

Service Guarantee

What does professional warranty coverage include?

- Return visits will be provided if mice reappear during the warranty period.
- Additional treatment at no extra charge.
- Inspection updates identifying new potential problems.
- Peace of mind knowing the job gets done right.

Chapter 6: Safety First – Protect Your Family

Mouse control involves potential health risks. Taking proper precautions protects everyone in your household.

Disease Prevention During Control

Understanding Health Risks

What diseases can mice transmit to humans?

- **Salmonella** – from contaminated droppings or urine.
- **Hantavirus** – a rare but serious respiratory illness.
- **Leptospirosis** – bacterial infection from mouse urine.
- **Parasites** – fleas, mites, and ticks carried by mice.

How do these diseases spread? Most transmission occurs through:

- Breathing contaminated dust particles.
- Touching contaminated surfaces, then touching the face.
- Direct contact with mouse droppings or urine.
- Bites from infected fleas or mites.

Safe Trap Handling Procedures

Personal Protection Equipment

What should you wear when handling traps?

- Disposable gloves (nitrile or latex)
- Dust mask or N95 respirator
- Long sleeves and pants
- Closed-toe shoes

Trap Disposal Methods

How should you dispose of caught mice safely?

1. Spray the trap and mouse with disinfectant.
2. Place the entire trap in a plastic bag if disposable.
3. For reusable traps, remove the mouse using tools (never by hand).
4. Double-bag all waste materials.
5. Wash your hands thoroughly with antibacterial soap.

Cleanup After Infestations

Pre-Cleaning Preparation

What should you do before cleaning contaminated areas?

- Ventilate the space by opening windows.
- Wait 30 minutes before entering for cleaning.
- Gather all cleaning supplies before starting.
- Ensure children and pets stay away during cleanup.

Proper Cleaning Sequence

How should you clean mouse-contaminated areas?

Step 1: Disinfect before disturbing

- Spray droppings and urine with 10% bleach solution.
- Let the disinfectant sit for 5 minutes.
- Never sweep or vacuum dry droppings (creates dangerous airborne particles).

Step 2: Remove contamination safely

- Use paper towels or disposable rags.
- Work from outside of the contaminated area inward.
- Double-bag all waste materials.
- Remove and dispose of heavily contaminated materials.

Step 3: Deep clean and sanitize

- Wipe all surfaces with disinfectant solution.
- Allow surfaces to air dry completely.
- Wash any washable items in hot water.
- Replace air filters that may have been contaminated.

Step 4: Final safety measures

- Dispose of cleaning materials properly.
- Remove and wash protective clothing.
- Shower and wash your hair after a thorough cleanup.
- Monitor the family for any signs of illness over the next few weeks.

Chapter 7: Myths and Misconceptions

Let's clear up common misconceptions that can waste your time and money.

Myth #1: Cats Automatically Solve Mouse Problems

The Reality About Cats and Mice

Do all cats catch mice? Absolutely not. Many house cats have lost their hunting instincts through generations of domestication.

What affects a cat's mousing ability?

- **Age and health** – older or sick cats hunt less.
- **Feeding schedule** – well-fed cats may ignore mice.
- **Personality** – some cats are naturally better hunters.
- **Early experience** – cats without early hunting exposure often ignore mice.

When cats do help with mouse control:

- Their scent can deter mice from entering areas.
- Active hunters may catch occasional mice.
- Outdoor cats prevent mice from approaching your home.

Bottom line: Don't get a cat specifically for mouse control. If you already have one, it might provide some benefit, but don't rely on it as your primary defense.

Myth #2: Only Dirty Houses Get Mice

The Truth About Cleanliness and Mice

Do mice only invade dirty homes? Not at all. Mice are opportunistic and will enter any home offering food, water, and shelter.

What do mice actually need?

- **Food sources** – even crumbs provide adequate nutrition.
- **Water** – available in most homes from various sources.
- **Shelter** – quiet spaces for nesting and raising young.
- **Entry points** – gaps they can squeeze through.

Why clean homes still get mice:

- Mice can survive on tiny amounts of food.
- Bird feeders and pet food attract mice regardless of house cleanliness.

- Structural gaps exist in most homes, regardless of cleanliness.
- Seasonal weather drives mice indoors seeking warmth.

Cleanliness helps but isn't a prevention: Regular cleaning reduces available food sources but won't eliminate mouse problems without other measures.

Myth #3: Mice Are Solitary Animals

Understanding Mouse Social Structure

Do mice live alone? No – mice are social animals that typically live in family groups.

Mouse social behavior:

- **Family units** typically include 2-8 related individuals.
- **Territory sharing** occurs among family members.
- **Cooperative nesting**, where multiple females raise young together.
- **Communication** through scent marking and vocalizations.

What this means for control:

- Seeing one mouse usually indicates that others are present.
- Trapping single individuals won't solve the problem.
- Family groups require comprehensive control approaches.
- Elimination efforts must account for multiple mice.

Population growth reality: One breeding pair can produce 35+ offspring per year under ideal conditions.

Myth #4: Cheese Is the Best Mouse Bait

Better Bait Options Than Cheese

Why isn't cheese the best bait? Modern mice often prefer sweeter, more aromatic foods than traditional cheese.

Most effective baits ranked:

1. **Peanut butter** – sticky, aromatic, difficult to steal.
2. **Chocolate** – sweet smell attracts from a distance.
3. **Dried fruits** – concentrated sweetness mice love.
4. **Bacon bits** – a protein and fat combination.
5. **Marshmallows** – sticky texture prevents theft.

Why do these work better than cheese?

- Stronger, more appealing scents.
- Sticky textures that can't be easily stolen.
- Higher calorie density attracts hungry mice.
- Longer-lasting scent retention.

Myth #5: Ultrasonic Devices Provide Complete Protection

The Ultrasonic Reality

Do ultrasonic repellents eliminate mice? No – they provide temporary deterrence at best.

Why ultrasonic devices have limited effectiveness:

- **Adaptation** – mice quickly become accustomed to repetitive sounds.
- **Sound barriers** – walls and furniture block ultrasonic waves.
- **Range limitations** – effective area much smaller than advertised.
- **Variable sensitivity** – not all mice react to the same frequencies.

When ultrasonic devices might help:

- As temporary measures while implementing other solutions.
- In combination with traditional control methods.
- For psychological comfort during active infestations.

Bottom line: Don't rely on ultrasonic devices as your primary mouse control strategy.

Chapter 8: Seasonal Mouse Control for Canadian Homes

Mouse activity patterns change throughout the year in Canada. Adapting your control strategies to these patterns improves effectiveness.

Spring Mouse Activity (March-May)

What happens in spring?

- Outdoor food sources become available again.
- Mice that overwintered indoors may try to leave.
- New breeding cycles begin as temperatures warm.
- Winter damage to your home creates new entry points.

Spring prevention priorities:

- **Exterior inspection** after winter freeze-thaw damage.
- **Entry-point repair** before the peak breeding season.
- **Yard cleanup**, removing winter debris that provides cover.
- **Trap placement** in areas where indoor mice might travel toward exits.

Why spring matters for control: Catching the overwintering population before they reproduce prevents much larger problems later.

Summer Monitoring (June-August)

Summer mouse behavior changes:

- Less pressure to enter homes due to outdoor food availability.
- Continued breeding in established indoor populations.
- Increased outdoor nesting, but potential indoor problems persist.
- Construction and landscaping can disturb outdoor populations.

Summer maintenance tasks:

- **Vegetation management**, keeping plants away from the house foundation.
- **Ongoing trap monitoring** in known problem areas.
- **Food storage vigilance** as outdoor entertaining increases.
- **Structural maintenance**, while the weather permits, and easy repairs.

Summer advantage: Easier time identifying and sealing entry points when mice aren't desperately seeking indoor shelter.

Fall Preparation (September-November)

Peak prevention season in Canada:

- Mice actively seek winter shelter starting in September.
- Food sources are becoming scarce outdoors.
- Multiple mouse families are competing for indoor space.
- The weather is driving more aggressive entry attempts.

Critical fall preparations:

- **Intensive inspection** of all potential entry points.
- **Maximum trap deployment** in strategic locations.
- **Food storage lockdown** is removing all accessible sources.
- **Professional consultation** if you've had problems before.

Why fall prevention is crucial: Success in fall prevention determines your winter mouse situation.

Winter Management (December-February)

Peak indoor mouse season:

- Maximum indoor mouse activity and reproduction.
- Reduced effectiveness of outdoor control measures.
- The highest risk of property damage from desperate mice.
- The greatest risk of disease transmission is from indoor concentrations.

Winter control strategies:

- **Frequent trap checking is necessary**, as mice are most active indoors.
- **Immediate response** to any signs of new activity.
- **Ongoing sanitation** is necessary as mice concentrate near food sources.
- **Planning spring prevention** while dealing with current problems.

Chapter 9: Long-Term Success Strategies

Keeping mice out permanently requires ongoing attention and the right systems.

Monthly Maintenance Routines

What should you check every month?

Exterior perimeter walks (15 minutes):

- Foundation cracks or new damage.
- Gaps around utility entries.
- Vegetation is growing too close to the house.
- Debris accumulation provides cover.

Interior inspection (10 minutes):

- Food storage container integrity.
- Signs of new mouse activity.
- Trap functionality and placement.
- Areas where problems occurred before.

Why monthly checks matter: Early detection prevents small problems from becoming major infestations.

Seasonal Deep Maintenance

Spring deep cleaning (2-3 hours):

- Complete exterior inspection and repair.
- Deep cleaning of the basement and storage areas.
- Trap placement updates based on winter experience.
- Yard maintenance, removing mouse habitat.

Fall winterization (2-3 hours):

- Intensive sealing of entry points.
- Maximum trap deployment.
- Food storage security verification.
- Professional inspection to determine if previous problems existed.

Building Long-Term Success Habits

Daily habits that prevent mouse problems:

- **Evening kitchen cleanup**, removing crumbs and spills.
- **Pet food management does** not leave food out overnight.
- **Maintain trash discipline** by using tight-fitting lids and regularly removing trash.
- **Quick response** to any signs of mouse activity.

Weekly maintenance routines:

- **Trap checking and resetting** as needed.
- **Food storage review** to ensure containers remain secure.
- **Basic cleaning** of areas where mice might find food.
- **Quick visual inspection** of known entry points.

Signs your prevention is working:

- No new droppings appearing.
- Traps stay unsprung for weeks.
- No new gnaw marks on packaging.
- No sounds of mouse activity.

When Prevention Fails

Recognizing system breakdown:

- Mouse activity despite consistent prevention efforts.
- New entry points are appearing faster than you can seal them.
- Trap success is declining over time.
- Evidence of established breeding populations.

Recovery strategies:

- **Professional consultation** to identify missed problems.
- **System overhaul**, updating prevention methods.
- **Temporary intensification** of control efforts.
- **Long-term monitoring** to prevent recurrence.

Your Next Steps to a Mouse-Free Home

You now have the complete roadmap for effective mouse control in your Canadian home. But knowledge without action won't solve your mouse problems.

Immediate Action Plan (This Week)

Day 1-2: Assessment

- Walk your home's perimeter looking for entry points.
- Check inside for signs of current activity.
- Identify food sources mice might find attractive.
- Note areas needing immediate attention.

Day 3-4: Initial Prevention

- Seal the most obvious entry points using steel wool and caulk.
- Secure food storage using proper containers.
- Set traps in areas where you've found evidence.
- Remove outdoor attractants such as pet food or birdseed spillage.

Day 5-7: System Setup

- Establish checking routines for traps and sealed areas.
- Create a monthly inspection schedule.
- Stock up on proper supplies (traps, sealants, storage containers).
- Plan seasonal maintenance tasks.

First Month Strategy

Week 1: Focus on immediate threats and obvious problems.

Week 2: Expand prevention efforts to less obvious areas.

Week 3: Fine-tune trap placement and sealing efforts.

Week 4: Evaluate what's working and adjust strategy.

Long-Term Success Timeline

Month 1: Establish basic prevention and elimination systems.

Months 2-3: Refine approaches based on what's working.

Months 4-12: Maintain vigilance with routine inspections.

Year 2+: Seasonal maintenance, preventing new problems.

When to Get Professional Help

Don't struggle alone if you're dealing with:

- Multiple mice caught despite good DIY efforts.
- Evidence of structural damage or chewed wires.
- Health concerns about cleanup or disease exposure.
- Recurring problems that won't stay solved.
- Time constraints are preventing consistent maintenance.

Major Pest Control Edmonton is ready to help with comprehensive mouse control services throughout Edmonton, Calgary, and Red Deer. Our licensed technicians provide:

- **Free initial inspection** identifying all problem areas.
- **Guaranteed results** backed by warranty protection.
- **Safe, family-friendly methods** protecting children and pets.
- **Ongoing prevention programs** help prevent problems from recurring.

Final Thoughts: Your Mouse-Free Future

Mouse problems are manageable with the right approach. By implementing consistent prevention, responding swiftly to early signs, and seeking professional help when necessary, you can ensure a mouse-free home and peace of mind.

Remember: every mouse you see represents several you don't see. Take action early, stay consistent with prevention, and don't hesitate to get professional help when you need it.

Ready to start? Begin with the immediate action plan this week. Your mouse-free home is achievable with the right approach and consistent effort.

Need professional assistance? Contact Major Pest Control Edmonton for a free consultation. We'll assess your specific situation and create a customized solution that works for your home and family.

Your investment in mouse control today prevents much larger problems and expenses tomorrow. Take control of your home's pest situation – you and your family deserve the peace of mind that comes with a truly mouse-free home.

This guide represents current best practices for mouse control in Canadian homes. For specific situations or ongoing problems, consult with licensed pest control professionals who can provide customized solutions for your unique circumstances.