

Protect your home from termites



Activate your \$1 million
Envu Protection Warranty

Visit the Kordon Warranty Centre at
kordonwarrantycentre.com.au or phone 1800 552 802

envu™

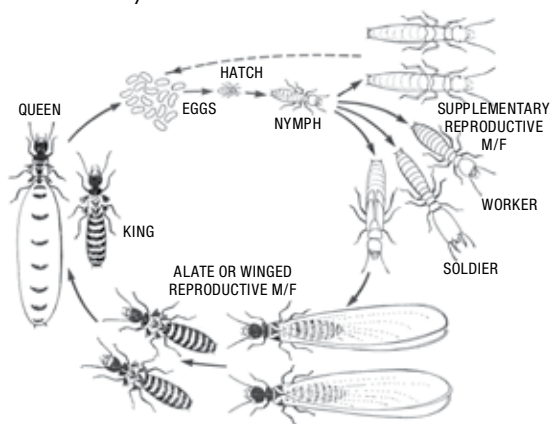
Proven termite system



Fact Sheet

- + Termites view the timber in your home and furniture as a food source.
- + Termites build protective mud tubes up brickwork or around physical barriers to gain access to food – the timber your home is constructed with.
- + Even the most effective termite systems have been known to be bridged by termites.
- + Annual termite inspections by a qualified professional can detect bridging of systems by termites.
- + Termites can literally eat you out of house and home.

Lifecycle of subterranean termite



Termites in Australia

Termites have been a natural part of the ecosystem on earth for more than 150 million years. Although commonly called 'white ants', they are not ants and in fact are more closely related to cockroaches.

Australia has approximately 300 species of termites, fortunately only about 15 attack timber important to humans, the rest are mainly grass feeders. Termites can be roughly divided into 3 groups: dampwood, drywood and subterranean. Dampwood termites generally feed on moist rotten logs on the forest floor and rarely cause a nuisance to humans. Drywood termites live in small pockets in the dead wood of trees and timber in houses. They obtain their moisture from the timber they eat and require no contact with the soil. Subterranean termites are generally ground-dwelling and require soil contact or some external source of moisture. Subterranean termites cause the most damage to timber-in-service in Australia and will be the type of termite talked about below.

Termite Biology

Termites are social insects in that they live and work together in large colonies with each individual having a specific task to perform to enable the colony to function. These tasks can be divided into three main roles – working, protecting and reproducing. Each task falls to different types (castes) of termite (i.e. worker, soldier and reproductive) with each caste having a specialised body shape and behaviour to enable it to perform its tasks.

The worker does as its name suggests and does so 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Workers build the nest and galleries, tend the eggs and young, gather food and feed the rest of the colony. Workers are wingless, sterile, blind and are white to translucent in appearance.

The soldiers are distinguished from other castes by their heads, which are heavily armoured and coloured. They also are wingless, sterile and blind. Because their mandibles are so specialised, soldiers must be fed by the workers. The primary function of the soldier is to defend the colony against predators such as ants. Soldiers rely on chemical as well as physical weapons. Some soldiers bite their attacker whilst others spray or inject a poison. Some have strongly built heads, which may be used as plugs to seal the nest from predators.

The soldier caste is the most distinctive and is usually used to identify a particular species.

The reproductive or alate castes are the potential kings and queens of new colonies. They possess eyes, functional reproductive systems and wings. They usually swarm (leave the colony) in spring to early summer, or late summer to early autumn, often through specially constructed flight exits. They normally swarm at dusk and may be attracted to lights at night. Termite alates are commonly found in spider webs.

After swarming, the alates break off their wings and if the conditions are right, begin building a new colony. The original mating pair becomes the new king and queen. The king does not change shape during this phase.

The queen's abdomen becomes enormously enlarged until she is completely immobile, becoming an egg laying machine. In some species, the queen is capable of laying up to 2000 eggs a day.

Nests

Termites build various types of nests. Some termite species have a total underground existence without a central nest whilst others build a central nest in the soil, or in dead or living trees. Some species attach their nest to the outside of a tree but maintain soil contact via galleries running down the outside of the trunk.

A termite mound is the most familiar form of termite nest. Mounds are often very distinctive in form depending on the species of termite. They can vary in size and shape from hardened flat lumps of soil to tall, columnar structures, which may be more than 7m high.

Feeding behaviour

Termites feed on dead or living plant material containing cellulose. Cellulose is digested by intestinal protozoa or bacteria, which also contain essential amounts of nitrogen.

Often termites dispose of excess, dead and diseased members of the colony by cannibalism, thereby conserving nitrogen.

Some species of timber are resistant to termites, but none is 'termite proof'. Termites will often damage materials they cannot digest, for example, plastics, rubber, metal or mortar. Primarily, this damage occurs when the indigestible items are encountered in the termite's search for food.

Most termites forage for food by means of underground galleries or covered runways which extend from the central nest to food sources above or below ground.

The gallery system of a single colony may exploit food sources over as much as one hectare, with individual galleries extending up to 50m in length.

Apart from grass-eating species, which forage in the open, all termites remain within a closed system of galleries where they are protected from natural enemies such as ants and from temperature/humidity extremes.

Distribution and importance

There are about 15 species of subterranean termites which commonly attack timber-in-service throughout Australia with the most common being *Coptotermes* spp., *Schedorhinotermes* spp., *Nasutitermes* spp. and the giant northern termite *Mastotermes darwiniensis*.

Generally the amount of termite activity and therefore damage, increases the further north in Australia you go, with soil type also having an important influence on termite distribution. In reality, any structure containing wood is exposed to possible subterranean termite invasion unless protective measures are taken.



Coptotermes acinaciformis



Schedorhinotermes spp.



Nasutitermes spp.



Mastotermes darwiniensis

Proven termite system



Tips to protect your home against termites

- + Your property has Kordon installed to protect it against termites.
- + Kordon, the Certified Termite System, was developed and is made in Australia.
- + Kordon has been installed in over 220,000 homes, providing ultimate protection against termites.
- + Even with the best system there are steps you can take to ensure your property remains termite free.



Kordon is a physical blanket preventing concealed entry (entry via areas not normally visible after construction) by termites into your building. Termites that attempt to gain entry when they come up to the Kordon will have to go around it, and they should be found during an inspection. Therefore it is vital that you do not damage, build over or cover the Kordon with any materials that will allow termites to gain concealed access above the Kordon.

If your home is brick, you will see at the base of the perimeter gaps between the bricks. These are known as weep holes to allow ventilation to the cavity and the escape of moisture that may accumulate in it. Ensure the weep holes are kept clear of concrete, dirt, garden mulch or any obstruction that would allow termites to gain entry without being detected. Maintain a debris free inspection zone of 75mm below your weep holes.

Inspect the building perimeter of your home every 3 months for termite mud tunnels. These tunnels are used by termites to bridge over materials they cannot tunnel through, such as brick and concrete.

Moist soil attracts termites. Ensure drainage pipes from hot water systems, air conditioners, leaking taps, etc are not dripping into the soil. Arrange to collect the water or plumb the outlet to drains.

Have an annual inspection by a licenced pest manager with an Envu Timber Pest Inspection accreditation. Ensure the inspection is carried out according to the Australian Standard AS 3660 series or AS 4349. A "termite check" is not a Timber Pest Inspection.

In a house with a concrete slab, where the exposed slab edge forms part of the physical termite system, ensure the slab edge remains exposed as part of the inspection zone. If you intend to 'cover' the slab edge, contact your Envu Accredited Timber Pest Inspector with whom you can discuss your situation.

With suspended floor homes, any material that termites eat must be kept away from the sub floor. This includes any wood, timber, paper and cardboard.

Ensure ventilation to the sub floor is not blocked. The venting allows air flow to keep the area dry and make it less attractive to termites. It also reduces the likelihood of timber decay ("wood rot").

If you are building garden beds or retaining walls and want to use timber, use CCA or similar treated timber which resists termite attacks (and also timber decay).

If you see a termite mud tunnel leading into your house or anywhere on your property, resist the temptation to break it open and destroy it. All this will do is force the termites away to another area where you may not be able to detect them.

Contact an Envu Accredited Timber Pest Inspector to inspect the area. He/she will be able to identify the termites and provide advice on whether or not the termites are a threat and the appropriate treatment method.

Kordon Termite System complies with AS3660.1, 2014 Termite Management Part 1 (amended 2017)

New Building Work: Requires a 75mm inspection zone below the level of the termite system.

Whilst there are some exceptions, the time to address this situation is during construction, but most importantly, **BEFORE EXTERNAL FINISHING TOUCHES** are completed e.g. pathways, patios, piers, steps, access ramps, nib walls installed directly to the structure, landscaping etc.

Checklist of Precautions

Will the pathways allow for a 75mm inspection zone?	YES
Will the patios have the necessary inspection zone?	YES
Will the entry have the required inspection zone?	YES
Will abutting walls / attachments breach Kordon?	NO
Will external steps breach Kordon?	NO
Will external decking breach Kordon?	NO
Will driveway slabs compromise Kordon?	NO
Will landscaping compromise Kordon?	NO
Will carports, hot water systems affect Kordon?	NO
Will internal step down installations comply?	YES
Does the V joint on the rendered wall comply?	YES

Refer to Sections 3.5 & 3.6 of AS 3660.1: If your answers do not agree with all of the above, please contact your Kordon Accredited Installer, immediately. Given the correct time frame he/she can address any situation to ensure the completed building has a Kordon Termite System, which complies with the Australian Standard and to our specifications.

Below are some examples where Kordon Termite System has been compromised



Solution: Install Kordon to detail Kd041b – refer to accredited Kordon installer for further information before installing pathway



Solution: Install Kordon to detail Kd041b – refer to accredited Kordon installer for further information before pouring driveway



Solution: Install Kordon to detail Kd041b – refer to accredited Kordon installer for further information before pouring entry



Solution: Install Kordon to detail Kd041b – refer to accredited Kordon installer for further information before installing pathway



Solution: Install Kordon to the vertical between brickwork and structure



Solution: Install Kordon to the vertical between nib wall and structure

Your 12-month Envu Protection Warranty



What you need to know

- + Kordon was installed during the construction of your home.
- + It protects your home from concealed access by termites.
- + Under the Envu Protection Warranty, an Envu Accredited Timber Pest Inspector does an annual check for conditions that may cause termites to enter your home.
- + Should termites enter your home from any entry point*, Envu will cover you for up to \$1 million worth of termite damage. Terms and conditions apply.
- * Entry through failure of the concrete slab is NOT covered by the Envu Protection Warranty.
- + Any remedial action and repair is fully managed by Envu.

Kordon Termite System offers you an Envu Protection Warranty which will provide the ultimate protection for your property.

Kordon has been extensively tested by the CSIRO and has been evaluated to have a durability and design life in excess of fifty (50) years. This represents the life expectancy of a building as deemed by Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB).

It is critical that prospective homeowners make an informed choice when selecting their termite system.

We acknowledge that throughout Australia there are varying degrees of local termite pressure; we also know that termites do not discriminate; they can and will, attack most building timbers anywhere on mainland Australia.

Kordon Termite System is installed to deter concealed termite access. These are areas not normally visible after construction.

Following the installation of Kordon there are many instances which may result in termites gaining access to a structure.

Our records, including many years of in-field experience, indicate this access is certainly happening as a result of any, but not limited to, the following:

- + Product damage by 'other trades' during the construction process
- + Installation of extra plumbing pipes during construction and not brought to the attention of the Accredited Kordon Installer
- + The re-siting of plumbing pipes without advising the Accredited Kordon Installer
- + Landscaping encroaching on inspection zones and allowing termite access
- + External concrete paths installed over Kordon allowing termite access
- + Installation of external decking affecting the necessary inspection zone
- + Masonry nib walls installed against the structure
- + Access ramps; different construction of entries; without any consideration for extra termite protection
- + Adding an extension to the existing structure without consideration for termite protection

Given the aforesaid, we, at Envu consider the ultimate system to protect your property is the installation of a Kordon Termite System combined with annual termite inspections.

There are geographical areas in Australia where inspections may be required more frequently; the best person to give you this advice is an Envu Accredited Timber Pest Inspector.

Regular termite inspections are designed to detect possible termite infestations thus avoiding costly timber damage repairs and replacement.

The Homeowner has 2 Warranty Options:

1. Limited Kordon Product Warranty

Note: This option is not available where either the 6 or 10 Year Product Warranty has expired.

Limited Kordon Product Warranty registered since 20th April 2012 is for a period of 6 years subject to an annual inspection without an Envu Warranty fee. This Warranty can be upgraded to a Envu Protection Warranty (refer to Item 2 below) or find out more by visiting kordonwarrantycentre.com.au or phone 1800 552 802.

2. Envu Protection Warranty up to \$1M

Envu offers a 12 month extended warranty (note: this only applies to homes which have a complete Kordon Termite Management System installed). Please contact the Kordon Warranty Centre for details on how to activate your Envu Protection Warranty.

Visit kordonwarrantycentre.com.au

Envu Protection Warranty is for 12 months and can be renewed annually for the life of the building following a Termite Inspection by an Envu Accredited Timber Pest Inspector. The inspector is required to sign a 'Declaration' that the property is termite-free and that any conditions conducive to termite infestation have been addressed before the Warranty is renewed (warranty and inspection fee applies).

Unlike many other warranties (including the "Limited Kordon Product Warranty") the Envu Protection Warranty means that remedial action and repair will be completely managed by Envu if termites happen to gain access to your home and cause damage within the warranty period. Find out more by visiting kordonwarrantycentre.com.au or phone 1800 552 802.



**Activate your 12-month
Envu Protection Warranty**

kordonwarrantycentre.com.au

**Your Envu Protection Warranty
up to \$1M**

Unlike many other warranties, this Envu Protection Warranty will ensure that remedial action and repair will be completely managed by Envu if termites happen to gain access to your home and cause damage within the warranty period.



Protect your home from termites



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