



In need of some assistance with a
bird infestation?

Call us today

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BIRDS: Pest Advice

London Network for Pest Solutions Ltd provides
information leaflets on the following pests:

Rats • Mice • Cockroaches • Squirrels • Bed Bugs • Wasps •
Flies • Fleas • Moths • Ants • Foxes • Birds • Spiders

What does a 'pest' bird look like?

Birds come in many shapes, sizes and colours, but all have beaks, are covered in feathers and have a pair of powerful wings to enable flight. In the UK, we tend to view birds as our friends, but certain species can cause damage if left unchecked. Light grey with iridescent neck plumage, feral pigeons are the most common feathery pest, followed by the glossy black starling, pale brown and grey feathered house sparrow and white-grey seagull.

Where do birds live?

In nature, birds tend to nest in trees and other sheltered surroundings, but in cities and towns, they have adapted to the UK's increasingly urban environment to nest in some seriously inconvenient places. Flat roofs, chimney stacks, ledges, balconies and guttering are firm favourites for these feathery foes, and pigeons in particular like to roost inside roof spaces and cavities.

What do birds eat?

Birds generally eat a diet of insects, worms, seeds and grains, although certain species have a reputation for being opportunistic scavengers – as anyone who has guarded their chips at the seaside from hungry seagulls can testify!

DID YOU KNOW?

Birds have hollow bones which help them fly



DID YOU KNOW?

Scientists believe that birds evolved from theropod dinosaurs

Why are bird infestations a problem?

Feathered friends can rapidly become foes when an infestation occurs. Birds can deface buildings with their droppings – pigeon poo is especially damaging, as its acidity makes it corrosive. Birds also dislodge roof tiles, block guttering and encourage insect infestations. Many birds also carry parasites – such as mites and fleas – which can spread diseases such as salmonella, meningitis and toxoplasmosis.

What are the signs of an infestation?

Bird infestations are quite easy to spot – keep an eye out for groups of birds settling on roofs or ledges, continuous squawking and feathery debris around your property. You may also notice a significant increase in droppings and external damage, as well as foul odours should a bird die in a difficult-to-access space.

How can I prevent a bird infestation?

It can be difficult to stop birds from settling on your property, but there are actions you can take to try and discourage them. Keep food sources well hidden, including keeping bin lids firmly closed and avoiding leaving bin bags out in the open. Never feed birds, as not only does it encourage them to return, but the food can also attract other pests, such as rats and foxes.

How to get rid of birds?

As birds do pose a significant health hazard, DIY bird removal and proofing is not recommended due to the associated risks. A professional pest controller has a multitude of methods to get rid of birds, and to discourage them from re-settling. This can range from the installation of bird netting, a bird point/spikes system and nest removal. Hawking is also an option, which involves using trained birds of prey to deter pests without harm.

