



5 questions to ask before hiring an exterminator



No one looks forward to the day they realize that pests have invaded the home—not only is it repulsive, but it's also destructive. Fleas, ticks, ants and fire ants, mosquitoes, rodents and other creepy-crawlers can enter your home and wreak havoc. While there are several low-cost remedies that you can buy at the store to eradicate pests, calling an exterminator is often the best option. Before you decide on extermination as your solution, make sure you ask the exterminator the following questions to ensure you get excellent service. While many of these inquiries should be standard when hiring any type of service, people often forget to ask them.



1. How long have you been in business?

If an exterminator has been in business for several years, it tells you that they are more likely to be experienced and trustworthy. Exterminating the outside and inside of your home is effective, but keep in mind that a stranger will be entering your home. Get assurance that the exterminator is professional and experienced by asking how long he or she has been exterminating homes.



2. Do you guarantee customer satisfaction?

While you might have confidence in your new exterminator, you never really know until after he or she has treated your home for pests. For instance, your exterminator could very well use too little or too much pesticide, causing you to be dissatisfied with the service/results. Customer satisfaction should always be guaranteed. Period. If there is no such promise, simply move on!



3. Are you licensed and insured?

Certification and insurance are just as important as a guarantee. When you're researching exterminators, you should ask up front if they are licensed and insured. If not, keep looking. As with any service, credibility and trust are vital with extermination. If something happened to your belongings, or if he or she was injured while exterminating your home, you will want peace of mind knowing that your exterminator is insured.



4. Can you provide references?

Any exterminator should be willing to provide references upon request. It's important to understand who will be coming into your home—sometimes when you're not even around. As the old adage says, it's better to be safe than sorry.



5. Are the chemicals and/or pesticides you use safe for my family and the environment?

These days, going green has become quite popular. Many companies are taking note of the importance of protecting our environment and offering green solutions with their services, including exterminators. Don't be shy: Ask the exterminator if the pesticides he or she uses are safe for your loved ones, your home and Mother Earth.



Extermination services often involve allowing people into your home, making trustworthiness a vital quality in an exterminator.

While there are do-it-yourself treatments available to help control pests and to prevent them from invading your home, calling on a professional exterminator is often the best solution, especially when your satisfaction has been guaranteed by the company you select. However, it is vital that you feel comfortable with the exterminator you choose. There is no substitute for peace of mind!

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A composite image featuring three individuals. On the left, a male customer in a maroon polo shirt and a female technician in a grey Terminix uniform and cap are looking at a tablet together. On the right, a male technician in a grey Terminix uniform and cap is walking towards the camera, carrying a clipboard. The background is a solid green color.

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