

# GERMAN COCKROACH INFO SHEET

## FAST FACTS

- Cockroaches have been around for over 200 million years, since the time of dinosaurs!
- A cockroach can live almost a month without food.
- A cockroach can live about two weeks without water.
- A cockroach can live for up to one week without its head!
- Cockroaches can hold their breath for up to 40 minutes!
- Cockroaches can run up to 3 miles an hour.
- Some female cockroaches only mate once and stay pregnant for life!

## General Information

German cockroaches can be found all over the world. They are the most common cockroach in the United States. Each German cockroach can live about 100-200 days

<b>Size</b>	½" to 5/8"	<b>Common Name</b>	German Cockroach
<b>Shape</b>	Oval	<b>Kingdom</b>	Animalia
<b>Color</b>	Brown to Dark Brown	<b>Phylum</b>	Arthropoda
<b>Legs</b>	6	<b>Class</b>	Insecta
<b>Wings</b>	Yes	<b>Order</b>	Blattodea
<b>Antenna</b>	Yes	<b>Family</b>	Blattellidae
		<b>Genus Species</b>	Blattella germanica

## Diet

Cockroaches are attracted to sweet and floury foods. They also eat non-**organic** items such as toothpaste and books!

## Habitat

German cockroaches live in warm and damp places, like kitchens, bathrooms, and places where people eat and drink.

## Impact

Cockroaches crawl through dirty areas and then walk around our homes tracking in lots of bacteria and germs. They can **contaminate** food by shedding their skins. Their cast off skin and waste byproducts can also trigger **allergic reactions, asthma** and other illnesses, especially in children.

## Prevention

\* Keep cooking, eating and food storage areas clean and dry.

\* If you see cockroaches, it is best to call a pest management professional due to the illnesses they can spread.

To learn more about this and other cockroaches, visit <http://www.pestworldforkids.org/cockroaches.html>