

# Woodworm Control

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## ► Problem

Woodworm is a generic name for a group of beetles that complete part of their life cycle in timber and potentially, it can be found anywhere there is timber in the home, or indeed other types of buildings. Typically that could mean the roof rafters, floor joists, floor boards, skirting boards and of course any wooden furniture.

They lay their eggs on or in timber and their larvae feed upon the cellulose in the wood, boring through it to leave a network of tunnels, and so damaging and weakening the structure. Until recently if the infested wood had been painted or varnished – woodworm treatments would not work.

## ► Solution

The first necessary step is a professional survey from Peter Cox to locate the areas of infestation, identify accurately the species involved and determine whether it is active or not. Once an active woodworm infestation has been positively identified in painted or varnished wood a new and unique treatment can be applied. Insectacoat - the only professional solution on the market that can be used to effectively treat woodworm in timbers with varnished or painted surfaces.

## ► Features & Benefits

Covered by a 20 year guarantee

Quick drying water based varnish

Very low odour

Once dry, Insectacoat is perfectly safe and leaves a clear semi glossed appearance

Removal of existing finish not required so ideal for historic and heritage wood

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COAT**





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## Insect Identification - the first essential step

### Common Furniture Beetle (Anobium punctatum)

Responsible for about 75% of all woodworm damage to property, attacking both soft and hard woods. The adult beetle is approx 3mm long and chocolate brown coloured. It is able to fly. Up to 80 eggs are laid and the life cycle averages 3 years. Flight holes are 2mm dia.

● flight hole - actual size

### Wood Boring Weevil (Euophryum confinis)

Established in post war Britain but already widespread and associated with wet rot decay. The adult is 3-5mm long, blackish brown and identifiable by its long 'snout'. Normally associated with damp timber and appears to have two overlapping life cycles in the year. Flight holes are small 1mm dia and ragged.

● flight hole - actual size ●

### Death Watch Beetle (Xestobium rufovillosum)

The most damaging wood borer in old buildings, attacking hardwood and often found in timbers also suffering from fungal decay. Larger than the Common Furniture Beetle at 6 to 8mm long and greyish brown in colour. Its life cycle averages 5 to 6 years. The adult emerges from 4mm dia. round holes and is now known to be capable of flight. Eggs are laid in small clusters.

● flight hole - actual size

### House Longhorn Beetle (Hylotrupes bajulus)

This large insect is found mainly in the southern Home Counties. It attacks only softwood but because of its size and ability to bore extensively through sapwood and into heartwood, the damage caused is rapid and severe. It is greyish brown to black, has a life cycle of 5-11 years and can reach 25mm long. Flight holes are oval up to 9mm by 6mm. Up to 200 eggs are laid.

● flight hole - actual size ●

## Typical Lifecycle - continual on-going damage throughout every stage



1  
Egg is laid in crevices and open joints in wood.



2  
Larval grub bores into wood feeding on cellulose.



3  
Larva forms pupation chamber near the surface.



4  
After meta-morphosis beetle bores out of wood, mates and flies off to lay eggs in fresh wood.



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## Woodworm Infestation

Woodworm attack is varied - both in the type of timber which each species infest and their life span in the larval stage which can range from 10 months to 11 years. This means that accurate identification by a Peter Cox surveyor is the first essential step because not all infestations need treatment.

## Insectacoat Treatment

We have been striving to find a solution to treating woodworm on painted and varnished wood for some time and the development of Insectacoat is the only solution on the market to treat these surfaces effectively. Insectacoat contains an active ingredient that can only be used by a qualified technician.

## Bare Timber Treatment

On bare wood surfaces Peter Cox technicians will use the latest proven insecticidal formulations that eliminate the insects on contact. Where structurally necessary, heavily infested timbers will be cut away and replaced, or economically repaired by skilled joiners using resin repairs techniques.



Freephone 0800 789 500  
[www.petercox.com](http://www.petercox.com)

**Peter Cox Ltd**  
Aniseed Park, Broadway Business Park  
Chadderton, Manchester, OL9 9XA  
Email: [enquiries@petercox.com](mailto:enquiries@petercox.com)