



TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR HOME AGAINST TERMITES

Your home has Kordon Termite Barrier installed to protect it against termites. Kordon was developed and is made in Australia. It has been installed in over 120,000 homes without one failure. However even with the best system there are steps you can take to ensure an even higher level of protection.

Home owners should also be aware that most home insurance policies do not cover termite damage, that is why it is important that you follow these suggestions.

The following should be read in conjunction with the Bayer / Kordon Termite Fact Sheet.

1.Kordon is a physical barrier preventing concealed entry 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.

2.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 75 mm below your weep holes.

3.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.

4.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.

5.Have an annual inspection and report by a pest manager with a timber pest inspection qualification. Ensure the inspection is done according to the Australian Standard AS 3660 or AS 4349.

6.In a house with a concrete slab, where the exposed slab edge forms part of the physical termite barrier system, ensure the slab edge remains exposed as part of the inspection zone.

7.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.

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

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

10.If you see a termite mud tunnel leading into your house or any where on your property, resist the temptation to break it open and destroy it. All this will do is drive the termites away to another area where you may not be able to find them. Arrange for a reputable pest manager to inspect the area. A good pest manager will be able to identify the termites, which is an aid to a treatment method, and can advise as to whether the termites are a threat or not.

BACKED
by **BAYER™**



Explaining your Kordon Warranty

(Refer to the Kordon warranty included with this folder)

PHYSICAL TERMITE BARRIERS

Your Kordon Termite Barrier acts as a physical termite barrier. It complies with the requirements of Australian Standard AS 3660.1 Termite Management, Part 1 : New building work .

Like all physical termite barriers **the purpose of Kordon is to deter concealed entry by termites** into the building. The key words in this description are “concealed entry”. If termites gain entry which continues without detection they are likely to cause significant damage before their presence becomes known. Research by Archicentre¹ shows the average cost to treat and repair the damage caused by termites is \$7000 per home. Archicentre also estimates 130,000 homes per year are damaged by termites. This cost of almost \$910m makes termites the most costly of all natural forces in Australia; more expensive than storm, wind, flood or fire damage.

Termites cannot penetrate Kordon, so if they are to gain entry to your home, they must do so around or over the Kordon and they should be seen during an inspection. (Termites construct mud tunnels which they use to protect themselves as they go from the soil to timber and food sources, and this is one of the signs the inspector looks for). Early detection means damage will be minimal and steps can be taken to eradicate the termite nest or prevent further access.

WHAT IS THE KORDON WARRANTY?

The Kordon Warranty guarantees termites will not gain access to your building by penetrating through the Kordon for a period of 10 years , provided that you also adhere to the terms of the

Warranty. These include things such as not allowing accumulation of rubbish or wood against the Building and so on.

As termites cannot go through the Kordon they are forced into areas where they should be found during an inspection.

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO ME?

Installing Kordon means termites cannot get into your home undetected. If there was no Kordon, termites would be able to do a significant amount of damage before they were detected. Kordon operates as an “early warning system.”

Provided you have conducted a regular inspection, termite activity will be detected before significant damage occurs. Early detection usually limits the costs to treating the termites, with little or no cost for building repairs.

IS THE KORDON WARRANTY DEPENDANT ON REGULAR INSPECTIONS?

Unlike other termite barriers, your Kordon warranty is not dependant on you having regular termite inspections.

However, for all of the reasons explained above, **it is essential that your home/building is inspected annually** (or more frequently in areas of high termite pressure) by a pest inspector/controller who is experienced in termites. (see point 5 over the page)

¹ Archicentre is the building advisory service of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects