

common indoor house plant pests



aphids

Small, soft-bodied, pear-shaped insects. Usually green in colour but colour can vary.

-  If plant is sturdy, give a strong forceful spray of water
-  Use neem oil
-  Remove any infected leaves or stems
-  Use yellow sticky traps, change out as they fill

scale

Small insects that attach themselves and slowly suck the sap from plants.

-  Rub scale off with nail or soft brush
-  Wipe each insect with cotton swab dipped in rubbing alcohol
-  Young scales will crawl unprotected to new location, spray during this stage with insecticidal soap
-  If nothing works it may be time to remove the plant before the problem spreads

whiteflies

Very small with a powdery white appearance and resemble tiny moths.

-  Use neem oil
-  If plant is sturdy, give a strong forceful spray of water
-  Insecticidal soap spray may be used
-  Use yellow sticky traps, change out as they fill

spider mites

They are extremely small. A silky web is often seen with heavier infestations.

-  Use neem oil
-  If plant is sturdy, give a strong forceful spray of water
-  Insecticidal soap spray may be used
-  If nothing works it may be time to remove the plant before the problem spreads

fungus gnats

Look like little fruit flies and will fly about when you shift soil of plants.

-  Allow soil to dry between watering and stay dry longer than normal to kill larvae
-  Use yellow sticky traps, change out as they fill
-  Replace the top inch or so of soil to remove larvae
-  If nothing works it may be time to remove the plant before the problem spreads

mealybugs

Small, pale insects related to scales that move very sluggishly.

-  Wipe each insect with cotton swab dipped in rubbing alcohol
-  Insecticidal soap spray may be used
-  Remove any infected leaves or stems
-  If nothing works it may be time to remove the plant before the problem spreads