

Introduction.

Before you begin it's best if you know what a termite looks like. If you have never seen one, here are a few pics to help.



Coptotermes soldier.



A group of Coptotermes soldiers vigilantly defending their entry point in a besser block wall after the plaster was removed to expose them.



Termites and black ants together. You will see that termites have a head and a body, two segments; whilst ants have three segments including the thorax that links their head to their body. Termite workers are creamy colour or white (hence the Australian colloquialism 'white ants'), but termites are not ants. Termite soldiers tend to be darker than workers, even deep brown with some species. Workers have see-through bodies and may be darker if they are eating a dark coloured timber... you can actually see inside their gut.



Small Schedorhinotermes soldiers with hundreds of fat juicy workers. Notice their dark guts.



Workers and soldiers – Coptotermes.



You won't find or see this girl too often – she's the Queen.



Schedorhinotermes soldiers in a gap between two bricks on the outside wall of a brick clad timber frame home. This entry point was located 30cm below ground level.

Quick tip: If you find termites and want to have them identified, collect a few soldiers and send them to Green Termite Bait Systems. Just catch them with a bit of sticky tape then stick them to a piece of paper with your name address and phone number.

Please state the location the termites were found. Include photos of the termite activity if you have any. You'll be advised which species they are and whether or not they are high or low risk to your home.