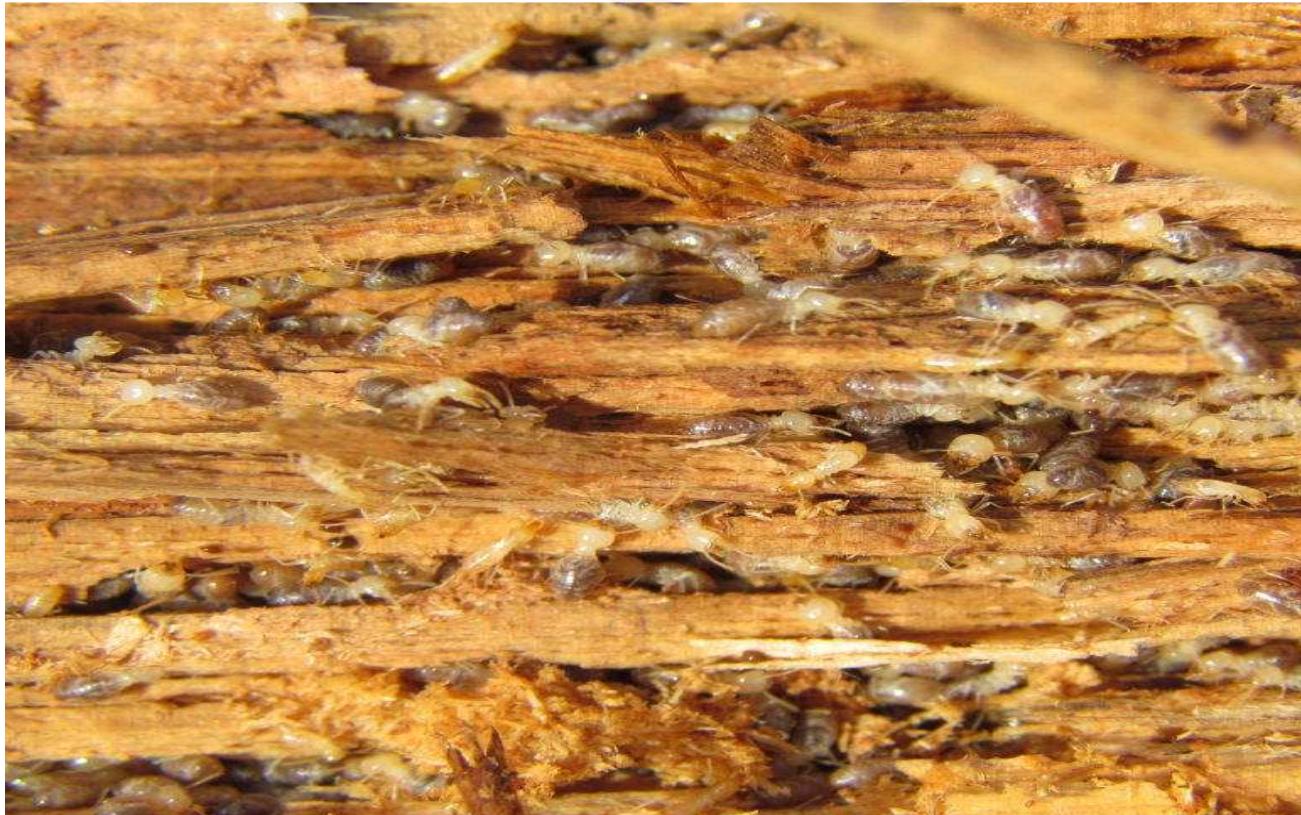


PREVENTION IS THE BEST CURE

Protecting your home from the start gives peace of mind and avoids future heartache.



Wherever you live on the Sunshine Coast it is likely termites are among your nearest neighbours.

If you want to prevent them making a silent and destructive home invasion, it is imperative to choose the right termite management system.

While all new homes must include a termite barrier, not all systems are created equal and home buyers need to understand the difference. Some systems include a visual barrier that relies on residents to regularly check the perimeter of the home for termite tunnels crossing the exposed concrete edge of the house slab. This is the cheapest method. However, if you are building to rent out the home or plan to be absent for extended periods, this isn't the best system.

Other systems used physical barriers such as steel mesh or

aluminium fixed to the slab, preventing the termites from entering the home.

Morcraft Homes specify a perimeter reticulated system comprising a safe organic chemical injected into a perforated pipe which forms a barrier around the home that termites won't penetrate. It is re-treatable for the life of the home with hidden child-proof locked traps.

All homes should have an annual inspection by a licensed termite pest controller. If regular inspections aren't in place, it can be as long as five or six years before an infestation is found.

Termites can do massive damage to a home if they are undetected for an extended period of time. In a worst case scenario, repairing the damage can be as disruptive as a major

renovation with more emotional stress and no improvement to the home.

Prevention is the best form of cure and it is easier, less costly and less invasive than dealing with a termite infestation.

Another important component to protect home buyers from future heartache is ensuring the plaster work is done correctly when the house is built.

Plasterwork is one of the Queensland Building and Construction Commissions biggest areas of consumer compliant.

The only way to achieve a Level 4 finish and meet the Australian Standards is to use metal ceiling battens and back-blocking.

These methods give a flatter finish, eliminate shadow lines, shrinkage cracks and screw popping and are virtually maintenance free.

Protecting your biggest asset from ongoing maintenance or major repair works starts with the right treatment methods during the building process.

CHOOSING A BUILDER

- Is your termite system re-treatable?
- Is it whole or part re-treatable?
- How does the system work?
- What is the warranty on your termite system?
- Will your home have termite treated frames and trusses?
- Does your builder use metal ceiling battens and back-blocking as per the Australian Standard?

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From the start
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