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## How to Treat/Prevent Woodpeckers

(The Downy Woodpecker is the most common woodpecker to be found at residential locations; foraging on trees and on the side of homes.)

**Please note: The federal migratory bird act protect woodpeckers. To treat for woodpeckers we recommend using the below tips to keep them away.**

FIRST\* Go to your attic or the area of your house closest to where the woodpecker has been pecking. Look for dead insects lying on the windowsills and in corners. Check for bees' nests in the rafters. Look for loose, rotting wood both inside and outside the house. These are all signs of an insect infestation.

Cedar siding and trim is a common type of wood that is more likely to get activity from the Downy Woodpecker. Some Stucco siding is also conducive to the Downy Woodpecker.

**1. Use visual deterrents. Woodpeckers are easily scared off by the sight of predators, shiny materials, and anything out of the ordinary, especially if it moves. Try affixing the following visual deterrents to your house in the area where woodpeckers have caused damage:**

- Hang aluminum pie plates, balloons, foil strips, CD Disks or reflective tape on your home. The pieces of aluminum should be long enough to dangle and move in the wind, which scares woodpeckers away. Aluminum flashing, a material sold at hardware stores, can also be nailed to your house to protect it from woodpeckers.
- Place a hawk, owl or eagle figurine on your rafters close to where you've seen woodpeckers. (Short Term Solution)
- Hang a flag or decoration near the area for a more visually appealing solution. A windsock or windmill that moves quickly when the wind blows works well to scare woodpeckers away.

**2. Place several wind chimes on and around your house. The noise from these chimes may discourage woodpecker visitors.**

**3. Repair holes in your house to discourage woodpeckers. Once one woodpecker makes holes in your home, more will be drawn to the area. Insects may crawl into the holes and infest your house, exacerbating the problem.**

- Use putty to fill the woodpecker holes as soon as you find them.

(Taken from wikihow.com)