

BAT-PROOFING YOUR HOME



It is best to **contact an animal-control or wildlife conservation agency for assistance** with “bat-proofing” your home.

If you choose to do the “bat-proofing” yourself:

1. Carefully examine your home for holes that might allow bats entry into your living quarters.
2. Caulk any openings larger than a quarter-inch by a half-inch.
3. Use window screens, chimney caps, and draft-guards beneath doors to attics, fill electrical and plumbing holes with stainless steel wool or caulking, and ensure that all doors to the outside close tightly.
4. Prevent bats from roosting in attics or buildings by covering outside entry points. Observe where the bats exit at dusk and keep them from coming back by loosely hanging clear plastic sheeting or bird netting over these areas. Bats can crawl out and leave but cannot re-enter. When all the bats are gone, the openings can be permanently sealed.

The best time to **“bat-proof” your home** is in the **fall** or **winter** when bats leave to hibernate. Avoid bat-proofing from May through August when young bats who are unable to fly may present.

For more information, contact your installation's Department of Public Health.
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