

# What is Diatomaceous Earth?



Diatomaceous earth is a remarkable, all-natural product made from tiny fossilized water plants. Diatomaceous Earth is a naturally occurring siliceous sedimentary mineral compound from microscopic skeletal remains of unicellular algae-like plants called diatoms. These plants have been part of the earth's ecology since prehistoric times. It is believed that 30 million years ago the diatoms built up into

deep, chalky deposits of diatomite. The diatoms are mined and ground up to render a powder that looks and feels like talcum powder to us. It is a mineral based pesticide. DE is approximately 3% magnesium, 33% silicon, 19% calcium, 5% sodium, 2% iron and many other trace minerals such as titanium, boron, manganese, copper and zirconium. Diatomaceous Earth is a natural (not calcined or flux calcined) compound. Diatomaceous Earth is a natural grade diatomite. However, the continual breathing of any dust should be absolutely avoided.

## **How does it work?**

To insects DE is a lethal dust with microscopic razor sharp edges. These sharp edges cut through the insect's protective covering drying it out and killing them when they are either dusted with DE or if it applied as a wettable powder spray. If they ingest the DE it will shred their insides.

## **What insects can DE be used on?**

Diatomaceous Earth may be used as a barrier to kill and control

- Fleas
- Ticks
- Pill bugs
- Adult flea beetles
- Sawfly
- Coddling moth
- Twig borer
- Thrips
- White Fly
- Mites
- Cockroach
- Slugs
- Snails
- Aphids
- Thrips
- Earwigs
- Silverfish
- Ants

AND MANY MANY MORE

DE can be used for bed bugs cabbage root flies, carrot root flies and is helpful in dealing with fungus gnats.

Indoor and Outdoor application Sprinkle a light layer of DE in areas where pests frequent, including under stoves, cabinets, sinks, garbage cans, window and door frames and sills.

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