



# Maggot Facts

Your wheelie bins worst nightmare!

Maggot infestation!

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The Binwash Guide

Knowledge / Prevention / Cure

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Happiness is a clean bin!



## What are maggots?

Maggots are the larva stage of the common housefly. Flies are attracted to food and other similar types of rubbish such as nappies; they lay their eggs on the rubbish and these hatch into maggots.

The maggots form pupae and hatch into flies.

The whole of this life-cycle on average can take up to 10 days in warm weather, and up to a month in cold weather.

So if flies settle on this type of rubbish they may lay eggs, which will then hatch into maggots.

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## How can I prevent maggots?



If flies don't get into contact with your rubbish, you will not get maggots.

Following these simple guidelines should prevent you from getting maggots:

- If you don't have access to a separate food waste collection, place carefully wrapped food waste in your black bin.
- Don't leave food waste and un-rinsed food containers open in your kitchen.
- Ensure food waste is put in the appropriate bin as soon as possible.
- If you have a kitchen caddy for kitchen waste keep the lid firmly closed.
- When putting food waste into the food bin please ensure the bin lid is closed so that flies cannot access the food waste to lay eggs.
- Nappies into the non-recycling, ideally inside a bag that is tightly wrapped. Double wrap in warm weather.
- Rinse food trays, yoghurt pots, glass jars and other food packaging before putting into your recycling bin.
- Ensure that the lids of your wheelie bins are kept closed
- Make sure that you never leave any food, including pet food, uncovered where flies can lay their eggs.
- Store your food bin and wheelie bins out of direct sunlight if possible, as the sun will warm up the bin, increase the risk of smells and attract flies.
- Replace your bin if it is broken or does not shut properly.

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## How do I get rid of maggots?

In the unlikely event that maggots do get into your bin, most of them will go when your bin is emptied. If some are left behind:

- maggots and fly eggs can be killed by using boiling water.
- many people find that large quantities of salt kills maggots.
- rinse/wash your food bin out after it has been emptied.
- Contact Binwash to give the bins a thorough clean.



**Binwash**

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