

Apprenticeship Standard for Pest Control Technician

Overview of the role

A Pest Control Technician works with industrial, commercial and domestic premises. They may work within a team or alone. They work with a wide range of public health and stored product invertebrate and vertebrate pest species. Using knowledge of pest biology and behaviour to survey a variety of sites, identify levels of pest infestations and determine appropriate actions to eradicate pests, ensuring at all times that current legislation is adhered to. Work typically includes routine proactive visits and one off reactive visits to solve immediate pest issues. They must operate in a safe manner, particularly when handling traps and chemicals and they should communicate with all types of customer to ensure that they are fully briefed about treatment programmes and any associated risks relating to treatment. Pest Control Technicians must continue to keep their pest control knowledge up to date and maintain professional standards and accurate records at all times. They will initially be supervised throughout all aspects of their role until they are considered to be suitably competent to carry out the role unsupervised.

Duration of Apprenticeship must be a minimum of 12 months to complete, typically 18 months.

Entry requirements - determined by individual employers. Subject to DBS checks. Typically apprentices will have a minimum of 4 GCSEs, grade C or above, including Maths and English. Apprentices recruited without the minimum will be required to achieve Level 1 English and Maths before taking their end-point assessment.

Knowledge and Understanding of:	
Organisational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisational policies and procedures
Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal responsibilities to yourself and others from pest control activity • Requirements for working at height or in confined spaces, drains or under loading platforms • Risks and types of disease and treatment
Food safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impacts of pest control on food safety
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working within the confines of relevant legislation • Product labels and Data sheets
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different customer types and their expectations • How to manage customer expectations
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different methods of effective and professional communication • How to engage with Colleagues and customers
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment and Technology required relevant to the job role and how to use it including application, monitoring and control equipment and communication devices
Pest Management and Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Pest Management and Control • The reasons Vertebrate and invertebrate pests need to be controlled • Target vertebrate and invertebrate pests and non-target species biology, behaviour, habitats, impacts and evidence • How to carry out an effective site survey • When and how to produce and use site and environmental Risk and COSHH assessments • Different types and effectiveness of non-chemical and chemical controls for different vertebrate and invertebrate pest species • Safe and effective courses of action for controlling current infestations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures for maintaining pest free conditions including proofing and hygiene • Segregation and disposal of waste generated as a result of pest control practices including humane despatch and disposal of carcasses • Customer facing and internal documentation required in line with current legislation, best practice and internal company requirements
--	--

Skills requirements	
Interpersonal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a range of communication skills to work with teams and customers
Pest Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correctly identify target pests and non-target species • Complete site surveys • Select and use monitoring and control measures most appropriate for a site, adhering to the risk hierarchy when using rodenticides • Calculate volumes and areas for specific treatment types and comply with label and PPE requirements • Use chemical and physical pest control devices safely and effectively • Make and explain appropriate recommendations to customers to aid control and prevent re-infestation • Maintain and calibrate application and control equipment • Maintain accurate documentation
Self Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be punctual • Maintain an appropriate personal appearance • Ensure work activity is prioritised and completed correctly
Decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide on best methods of infestation control and be accountable for decisions made • Make decisions in accordance with legislation, codes of practice and company policies • Solve problems safely, efficiently and timely • Know when and how to seek help

Behavioural requirements	
Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate pride in your work • Demonstrate the company and industry values at all times • Operate fairly, respectfully and with integrity • Manage your resources effectively • Think clearly and remain calm at all times • Be conscious of peoples' views and sensitivities regarding animals and pest control • Keep your pest control knowledge up to date

Professional Recognition and Career Progression

This standard is recognised by the British Pest Control Association (BPCA). The completion of this apprenticeship will lead to eligibility to become a BPCA registered Pest Control Technician.

Level this apprenticeship standard is a level 2

Standard review date this standard will be reviewed after a maximum of 3 years.

Apprenticeship standard – Pest Control Technician – Feb 17. Draft 4 - MMW