

Tips on Keeping Flies/Maggots out of your Garbage Can

- Wash your garbage can each week with a solution of white vinegar and water. Combine one part white vinegar and two parts water, and apply this cleaning solution to all surfaces of the garbage can with the scrub brush. Rinse the garbage can well, and leave it sitting in the sun to dry completely. Do not put the garbage can away with moisture trapped inside.
- Cover the bottom of the garbage can with old, wadded-up newspapers. The newspapers will absorb any liquids that leak from your garbage and minimize messes on the bottom of the garbage can that will attract flies.
- Line the garbage can with a garbage bag, folding the bag down over the rim of the garbage can. Always seal the garbage can tightly with the lid.
- Keep the garbage can in an area that has adequate ventilation to keep flies away from the can. Place the black tarp over the top of the garbage can during warm weather to keep flies from crawling into the garbage can.
- Place food waste in a sealing plastic bag before placing it into the garbage can. Always seal bones, meats or other organic trash separately to prevent flies from accessing these items in the garbage can.
- Coat the outside of the garbage can with vinegar to repel flies. Bay leaves or eucalyptus leaves might also repel flies if you crush the leaves slightly and hang small bunches around the outside of the garbage can.