# Possum Management Information Sheet



## **Description of Treatment**

At Gippsland Pest Management, we provide humane and effective possum management services to address unwanted possum activity in your building. As a protected species in Australia, possums cannot be relocated, so our focus is on exclusion and proofing to prevent re-entry.

## **OUR TWO STAGE PROCESS:**

# Stage 1: Monitoring and Exclusion

We begin by installing a monitoring camera and a one-way door at the possum's entry point. The camera helps us confirm the level of possum activity, often more than 1 is present, and ensure the one-way door is effective in allowing the possum to leave while preventing it from gaining access back into the building. This stage typically takes up to two weeks to complete.

## Stage 2

Once we confirm the possum has vacated, we remove the monitoring camera and one-way door. Our team will then complete basic proofing to the area used by the possum to gain entry to ensure long term exclusion. If a trade professional is required to ensure long-term proofing, our technician will advise accordingly.

## Damage Caused by Possum/s in your building

Some damage we have experienced from possums left in a building are:

- Chewing through and eating electrical wiring
- Urinating in the ceiling which can leave stains on your roof. This can also cause damage to the insulation in your roof, ultimately leading to replacement
- They can sometimes fall through the roof, leaving a gaping hole in the ceiling
- They can cause a bad smell to waft into your home. This is due to them urinating and pooing in the ceiling as well as their general smell

# Possums found in Gippsland

#### **Brushtail Possum**

Cat-sized with woolly fur, pointed ears, and a bushy black-tipped tail. Lives in tree hollows and may harm ornamental plants.



## Ringtail Possum

Smaller than Brushtails, with round ears, a white-tipped tail, and twig nests. Eats herbs, fruits, and flowers.



## **Difference between Possums and Rodents**

It can be challenging to determine whether you have possums or rodents onsite. Here are some key differences:

### **Possums**

- **Timing:** Noises are typically heard at night as they leave the house around 9 PM and return by dawn, it is usually very routine
- Sounds: Loud thumping (due to their size), snarling, or hissing noises; may thump when adjusting while asleep.
- Location: Prefer wall cavities for warmth and darkness. Knocking on the wall may disturb them, prompting movement.

## **Rodents**

- Timing: Active and noisy at night or during the day, usually no perceived schedule.
- **Sounds:** Fast running, scratching, and occasional thumping from playing or fighting. Rats also gnaw on wood or pipes, causing potential damage.

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