

How To Catch a Mole: Reclaim Your Property from These Subterranean Intruders

Moles, with their velvety fur and endearing appearance, can quickly turn into a homeowner's nightmare. These burrowing creatures can wreak havoc on lawns and gardens, leaving unsightly mounds of dirt that ruin the aesthetic beauty of your property. Not only do they damage plants, but their incessant digging can also disrupt drainage systems and undermine the structural integrity of foundations.

If you're tired of dealing with these destructive pests, it's time to take action. This comprehensive guide will equip you with the knowledge and techniques you need to catch moles and reclaim your property from their relentless destruction. We'll explore a range of methods, from humane trapping to using natural deterrents, ensuring an effective and compassionate approach to pest control.



How to Catch a Mole: Wisdom from a Life Lived in Nature by Marc Hamer

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Identifying Moles

Before you embark on your mole-catching mission, it's crucial to ensure that you're dealing with the right culprit. Moles are often mistaken for voles or shrews, but there are key differences that set them apart.

Moles are typically larger than voles, with a more pointed snout and velvety fur. They have paddle-like front feet with long claws adapted for digging, and their eyes and ears are barely visible. On the other hand, voles have shorter, less pointed snouts and more prominent ears and eyes. Their front feet are smaller and lack the characteristic claws of moles.

Understanding Mole Behavior

To catch moles effectively, it's essential to understand their behavior patterns. These creatures are solitary and territorial, living in tunnels and chambers that can extend several feet underground. They're most active during the early morning and evening hours, spending their days searching for food and excavating new tunnels.

Moles primarily feed on earthworms, grubs, and other insects found in the soil. Their keen sense of smell helps them locate prey, which they capture using their sharp teeth. Understanding these behaviors will give you an advantage when setting traps or employing other control methods.

Humane Trapping Techniques

Trapping is one of the most effective ways to catch moles without causing harm. There are various types of traps available, each with its own advantages and disadvantages.

- **Harpoon Traps:** These traps consist of a pointed harpoon that impales the mole when it crosses a trip wire. They are fast and effective but require precise placement to ensure a successful catch.
- **Scissor Traps:** Scissor traps have two jaws that snap shut when the mole triggers a pressure plate. They offer a more humane option than harpoon traps and can be reset multiple times.
- **Live Cage Traps:** Live cage traps are an ethical choice for those who prefer not to harm the moles. They capture the mole inside a cage that can be relocated to a different area.

Setting Traps Effectively

To increase your chances of catching moles with traps, it's important to set them strategically. Look for active mole tunnels by observing raised ridges in your lawn or garden. Once you've identified a tunnel, carefully insert the trap following the manufacturer's instructions.

Baiting Traps: Baiting traps with earthworms or peanut butter can increase the chances of attracting moles. However, avoid using strong scents that may deter them.

Checking Traps Regularly: It's crucial to check traps regularly to ensure they are working properly and to remove any caught moles. If a trap remains empty for several days, consider relocating it to a more active area.

Non-Lethal Deterrents

If you prefer non-lethal methods to deter moles, there are several options available. These deterrents aim to create an unfavorable environment for

moles, encouraging them to move away from your property.

- **Sonic Mole Repellents:** These devices emit high-frequency sounds that are thought to irritate moles, driving them away. However, their effectiveness is often debated.
- **Castor Oil:** Castor oil is a natural repellent that can be applied to the soil around your property. The strong odor is said to deter moles, but it's important to reapply it regularly to maintain its potency.
- **Planting Mole-Repelling Plants:** Certain plants, such as daffodils, garlic, and marigolds, are believed to naturally repel moles due to their strong scents. Planting these around the perimeter of your property can create a barrier.

Professional Mole Control

If you're unable to catch or deter moles on your own, it's recommended to seek professional help. Certified pest control companies have the experience and expertise to effectively eliminate moles from your property.

When choosing a professional mole control service, look for a company that offers a comprehensive approach, including mole identification, trapping, and habitat modification. A reputable company will use humane and environmentally friendly methods to resolve your mole problem.

Catching moles can be a challenging but rewarding undertaking. By understanding their behavior, using effective trapping techniques, and implementing non-lethal deterrents, you can reclaim your property from these persistent pests. Remember to prioritize humane methods and consider professional assistance if needed. With the right approach, you

can restore the beauty of your lawn and garden while preventing further damage caused by moles.

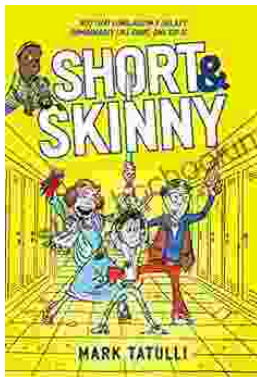


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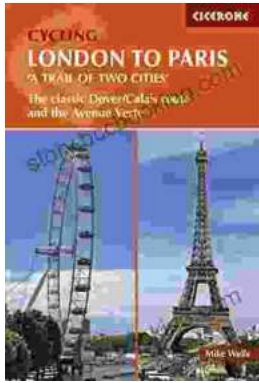
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