



## TIPS AND TRICKS

- **Spacing:** Typically one trap per urban property is sufficient, or approximately every 50 meters along a line for a larger property. On massive properties, place them 50m along a line, with each line being 100m apart.
- **Pre-feeding with mechanical traps:** Rats are wary of new food sources and objects. Before actually setting your trap the first time, put out a little lure (eg. peanut butter) in the entrance of the trap and on top of the unset trap inside the tunnel. Check the trap every day, replenishing the lure if taken. Finally after a week of doing this, set the trap as normal. Do this at least the very first time traps go out, but ideally every time the trap tunnel is moved or a new trap is introduced.
- **Location for trap:** Use chew cards or monitoring tunnels to find where pests are present. Place traps along ridges, stream banks, coastal edges and within backyards – along fence lines and areas where there is security for a rodent (i.e a garden shed) or pile of debris. Sometimes rodents may not enter a trap if other handy food sources are available, therefore ensure composts or fallen fruit are cleaned up regularly.
- **Disposal:** Rat carcasses can be wrapped in newspaper, a plastic bag and disposed of in your general rubbish (landfill), or buried deeply in the garden.
- **Health and Safety:** Mechanical traps can cause bruising and larger DOC traps can cause more serious damage if not managed carefully. Proceed with care and attention when setting and unsetting your traps, and do not be distracted. Wear gloves and ensure you wash your hands thoroughly after interacting with the trap or any carcasses. For all rat trap types, please remember to lure the trap before you set it. When placing the trap inside the wooden tunnel, place it towards the back and ensure it does not slide forwards where children, pets or by-catch could access the snap trap.



Trap example along a boundary that doesn't wobble & the snap trap far away from the entrance hole for safety.

### Trap.nz Instructions:

- Register, join a PFK project, then add a trap. Once you have added your rat trap to trap.nz using our trap.nz guide, you will need to start recording visits.
- Click or tap on your trap on the map. Once open, fill in the details. It doesn't matter if you haven't caught anything, or even if the lure hasn't been taken, every visit must be recorded. There are options available.
- Add notes or a photo if necessary.
- Press and **hold** on the "SAVE" button to save your visit record.

Initial set  
 Removed for Repair  
 Sprung  
 Still set, bait OK  
 Still set, bait bad  
 Still set, bait missing  
 Trap Replaced  
 Trap gone  
 Trap interfered with

*If you haven't caught anything, remember to select one of these options!*

*If you have caught something, where it says "Species", select your caught animal. Usually this will be a rat.*

*Ship rats have a tail that is longer than its body, while a Norway rat will have a body that is longer than its tail.*

### Contact Information:

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