ALLEY CAT

How to Evaluate a Rodent Inspection the Right Way.

A simple guide to help you understand what a complete rodent solution should include.

Types of Rodent Services

SERVICE TYPE	WHAT IT DOES	LIMITATIONS
Rodent Extermination / Poison / Rodenticide	Kills rodents one by one, but does not solve how they are getting in. Rodenticides can also create safety concerns for pets, kids, wildlife, and the environment.	Does not seal entry points, fix structural vulnerabilities, or stop new rodents from entering. Doesn't solve the problem at the source.
Rodent Removal / Trapping	Catches or removes rodents one by one. Most useful for leftover rodents after exclusion work is complete.	Does not stop new rodents from entering, seal the home, or solve contamination and access issues on its own.
Cleanup / Sanitation	Removes droppings, odor, and contaminated debris left behind by rodents. Most effective when paired with exclusion and removal work.	Does not prevent the problem from returning if entry points remain open.
Rodent Control	Monitors and helps reduce activity **around the home**. Most effective when paired with exclusion work.	Rodents may continue entering the home despite techniques used to control activity **around the property** if rodent exclusion work is not performed.
Rodent Exclusion	Finds and seals the openings rodents use to enter, helping kick rodents out and stop the problem at its source. 98.5% effective.	Does not control exterior rodent activity around the property. Long-term results also depend on property maintenance, attractant control, workmanship, material quality, and warranty clarity.

WHAT SETS **ALLEY CAT** APART

- Bay Area local
- Family owned & operated
- Professional rodent experts
- 10+ years of experience
- 13,000+ homes serviced
- 97% satisfaction rating
- Eco-friendly approach
- 3-Year Warranty

How Does a Well-Defined Inspection Measure Up?

ASK THIS	STRONG ANSWER (What a Thorough Inspection Includes)	WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR
1 Did the inspector find the real entry points, or only the obvious ones?	Inspector methodically inspects the entire property—inside and out, high and low—to find all current and potential entry points using experience, tools, and attention to detail.	Only obvious openings are mentioned, with little detail or no proof of a full inspection.
2 Did the technician take time to understand your situation and concerns?	The technician asks questions about your situation, where activity is happening, and what matters most to you.	Lowball offers that only address part of the home or part of the problem, without explaining the full scope needed to create a complete solution.
3 Did the technician inspect all relevant areas of the home?	The technician carefully inspects all relevant areas of the home, including hard-to-reach spaces, rather than only checking the areas where the homeowner has already noticed activity.	The inspection focuses only on obvious areas, customer-mentioned problem spots, or quick flashlight checks, leaving other access points and future risk areas unverified.
4 Did you receive clear documentation of the findings?	Photos, videos, notes, and the proposal clearly show what was found, why it matters, and how the recommended work fits together into a complete solution.	Limited documentation or recommendations that only support the minimum visible work needed, without clearly showing how the proposed scope solves the full problem.
5 Did the technician clearly explain what to expect from the job and warranty?	The technician explains the service process in specific, practical terms, including what will happen on service day, what common scenarios may come up, how the warranty works, what it covers, what it does not cover, and what the homeowner needs to maintain for coverage to remain valid.	Broad promises or general explanations without clear examples, specific warranty details, or practical guidance on what happens before, during, and after the job.
6 Was the technician properly equipped with safety gear (safety equipment)?	The technician wears proper protective gear, such as a mask/respirator, gloves, and coveralls, and uses proper lighting/tools when inspecting contaminated areas. This matters because rodent droppings, urine, nesting material, and debris can cause hantavirus, salmonella, and other health risks if disturbed.	The technician enters contaminated areas without a mask, gloves, coveralls, proper lighting, or basic safety precautions, which may indicate weak safety standards and a company that does not properly protect its employees or customers.
7 Did the technician help you feel informed, understood, and confident?	The technician explains what is happening, why it matters, and what to expect in a way that is easy to understand, helping the homeowner feel informed, reassured, and confident in the recommendation.	High-level answers that breeze past important details, without enough explanation, technical understanding, or real-world experience to make the homeowner feel confident moving forward.
8 Did the inspection help you clearly understand the full scope of the problem?	You leave with a clear understanding of the full scope of the issue, how each problem area connects, why the recommended work is needed, and how the solution supports long-term protection and warranty coverage.	Lowball offers that only solve the easiest or most obvious part of the problem, without explaining the full scope of work needed to prevent rodents from returning.