



Timber items most frequently attacked in termite infested homes

This survey was carried out on **40 homes** in the Melbourne metropolitan area
The figures were extracted from a paper prepared by
Dr John French Ph. D (Entomologist)

Internal timber items	Number of attacks	Percentage of attacks
Skirting boards	32	80%
Architraves	22	55%
Floor boards	14	35%
Wall frames	10	25%
Bearers	8	20 %
Cupboard/fitings	8	20%
Window frames	5	12%
Shelving	3	8%
Stairs	2	5%
Rafters	2	5%
Externally timber items		
Tree stumps	6	15%
Live trees	5	12%
Fence posts	4	10%
Wood sleepers	4	10%
Wood piles	2	5%
Wood decking	1	3%

Dr French also pointed out in his report:

*“The presents of subterranean termites in buildings is usually **first** detected in skirting boards and architraves.”*

The significance of this report in relation to termidetector in-house monitors

When termites first gain access into a house they forage around the lower section of the house frame searching for species of timber that they like to eat, which they attack first. (Skirting boards and architraves.)

It has been proven by the CSIRO and the Forestry Research Institute that the timber use in termidetector dowels is far more appetizing to termites than the moulded softwoods used for these timber items.

In addition the devices are positioned in all the high risk damp areas around the home where termites like to sub nest and can be inspected by the homeowner as often as they like, for nothing.