Learn about common snakes

House snakes are commonly found near people’s houses. This includes the Brown House Snake, Aurora House Snake and Olive House Snake.

Red-lipped Snakes and night adders mainly eat frogs and toads. Thus, any pond in your garden that attracts frogs will also attract these snakes. Dripping taps also attract frogs. The Rinkhals mostly eats toads.

The Mozambique Spitting Cobra often accidently ends up in someone’s house. It is an active hunter which searches for prey during the day and night.

The Black Mamba is often found in people’s gardens and will occupy abandoned buildings.

The Flowerpot Snake is an exotic species imported from Australia. It was introduced to South Africa and is often found in flowerpots, hence the name. It likes to live in humus-rich soils in and around cities.

***How do I keep snakes away from my house and garden?***

* Clean up any building rubble or plant material lying around. These places are good hiding places for snakes.
* Fix dripping taps, because they attract frogs, which attract certain snakes.
* Rats and mice attract snakes. Cats are a good way to control rodent populations. However, they may occasionally catch snakes and bring them to your house!

***Important note:*** There is no plant you can plant or liquid you can spray that keeps snakes away. Several tests have proved that these do not work and are a waste of money.