

Sureguard

Sun & Shade

Snake Repellents



Model #354



Model #354

Don't Wait to See a Snake[®]

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Quick Start (read this first)

Get up and running in a few simple steps.

Insert Batteries

2 × “D” **ALKALINE** type batteries, Positive (+) terminal facing downwards. The repellent will begin operating automatically. (*Batteries not included*).

Prepare the Ground

Dig a hole 18 cm deep. Break up soil finely (no clumps). Avoid heavily mulched areas.

Install the Unit

Insert repellent so that 7cm is above ground. Backfill with the **same** fine soil. Water the soil to remove air gaps and improve vibration transfer.

Spacing

Place units 10–25 m apart. Closer is better. Reduce spacing in sandy, gravelly or rocky soil.

Avoid Barriers

Vibration does NOT pass effectively through, concrete, rocks, pavers, deep cracks, large roots and similar. Think of each unit as a circle of vibration. These objects block that circle. Add extra units to cover these unprotected areas.

Is it Working?

The unit will vibrate for about 4 seconds every 30–40 seconds. Allow up to 60 seconds to observe first vibration once installed in ground.

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How it Works

Snakes are naturally cautious animals. When they detect strong low-frequency ground vibrations, similar to those produced by large animals or humans, they will often avoid the area or move away.

Sureguard repellents generate carefully controlled ground vibrations designed to encourage snakes to move away from the area.

Scientific Basis

Research shows snakes are extremely sensitive to vibration. This sensitivity allows them to detect distant movement through vibrations in the ground.

Reference: Snakes can detect lower-jaw vibrations with amplitudes as small as 10^{-10} metres (angstrom scale) at relevant frequencies. (Friedel et al., 2008; Hartline, 1971; Wever, 1978)

What to Expect

How quickly does it work?

- The repellent works on the next encounter.
- Snakes approaching the area will usually avoid or retreat.

Exception:

- If a snake is already trapped inside the protected area (e.g. under a house) exit timing is unpredictable.

Will I still see snakes?

Generally no, however:

- A frightened or fleeing snake may pass through the area.
- Snakes moving over hard surfaces (concrete, pavers) are not affected.
- A snake already inside the protected area may take time to leave.

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Is it a Barrier?

No, not physical. It is a deterrent system.

Coverage & Planning

Spacing Guidelines

Every property is different. Plan your installation before digging any holes. The aim is to create overlapping vibration coverage, leaving no gaps where snakes can enter. Closer spacing provides stronger protection.

The recommended spacing is up to 25 metres (reduce to 10 metres in sandy or rocky soils).

Refer to the following Installation Guide before deciding on locations.

Installation Guide

Critical Rules (illustrated page 6)

- Install 18 cm deep (7cm is above ground).
- Ensure tight soil contact.
- Use same soil (no mixing textures).
- Water after installation (important).

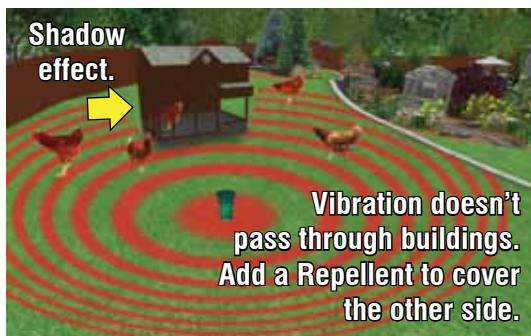
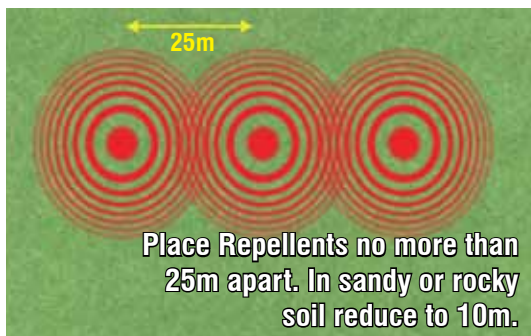
Avoid These Mistakes

- Hammering into ground (voids warranty).
- Air gaps around tube. (noisy sound).
- Installing in heavily rocky/gravel soil.
- Unintentionally blocking the vibration, caused by: hard surfaces, buildings, walls, tree roots, and similar barriers.

Barrier Awareness

Vibration transmission can be reduced or stopped in the following situations and may require additional repellents:

- Large cracks or trenches in the soil.
- Sudden elevation changes (edges, retaining walls).



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- Loose or highly variable ground (gravel, fill, broken rock).
- Hard surfaces such as concrete or bitumen that limit vibration transfer into surrounding soil.
- Large tree roots.

Troubleshooting

Not operating

- Replace batteries.
- Check polarity.
- Ensure the pull-tab (under the cap) is folded flat.

Noisy operation

A little audible sound is normal. When correctly installed, most of the vibration is transferred into the soil and airborne sound is reduced.

If the unit is noisy:

- Check that it is installed 18cm deep.
- Ensure the soil is finely crumbled and packed firmly around the Vibration Tube.
- Water the soil after installation to remove air gaps.

If the repellent is installed close to living areas and lower noise is important, consider the Sureguard Ultra Quiet Model 356.

The sound is continuous without pulsing on and off

- Try replacing the batteries with new alkaline type. If that does not fix it, the unit may be faulty.

Water inside unit

- Avoid battery leakage and replace batteries when vibration stops.
- Use only **ALKALINE type batteries**.
- Check the rubber seal on the cap and replace if damaged.

Still having problems?

If you've worked through the checks above and the problem persists, please contact Sureguard Technical Support. Some installation sites or operating conditions are unique and require individual assessment. We'll be happy to help.

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Proper Use

For best results, use as part of a complete snake management strategy:

Reduce food sources for rodents

- Clean up fallen fruit.
- Avoid leaving bird seed or pet food exposed.

Maintain garden

- Keep grass short.
- Remove hiding places: Wood piles, Rock piles, Debris, Building materials (corrugated iron, etc).

Safety & Liability

This product reduces risk but does not eliminate it. Always remain vigilant in snake-prone areas.

Not effective for:

- Tree snakes.
- Juvenile snakes.
- Ambush species (such as Death Adders).
- Snakes that avoid danger by staying still or hiding, rather than moving away (relying on camouflage or shelter).

Performance depends on (see also page 6):

Correct installation

- Proper ground contact is essential. The unit must be firmly inserted into the soil so vibrations transfer efficiently into the ground.

Soil conditions

- Different soils transmit vibration differently.
- Loose, sandy, or dry soils reduce vibration range, while dense, moist soils carry vibration more effectively.

Property layout

- Hard surfaces and terrain changes can block or reduce vibration range.

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- Concrete, rock, bitumen, deep cracks, and elevation changes can limit how far vibrations travel.

Snake behaviour

- Some species rely on camouflage or shelter rather than moving away, and may respond less, or not at all, to vibration.

Product Range

Sureguard manufactures three types of snake repellent. Select according to conditions:

Model 354 – Battery (Sun & Shade)

- Works in all light conditions.
- Up to 12 months battery life (batteries not included).

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/354

Model 356 - Ultra Quiet Solar

- Enhanced quiet vibration output.
- Multi-pulse *cyc/ed* vibration.
- Screwthread shaft. No dig installation in moist soil.
- Long-life super capacitor for backup power.
- On/off switch.

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/356

Model 358 - Premium Solar

- Enhanced vibration output.
- Multi-cycle vibration.
- Long-life super capacitor for backup power.
- LED garden light feature.
- On/off switch.

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/358

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Snake Safety

Snake Encounter

If you encounter a snake, you may be startled. Don't panic! Try to remain calm.

- Immediately halt. Remain still because snakes react to movement.
- DO NOT make any sudden movements.
- If the snake is more than a few metres from you, move very slowly away while watching carefully to see if the snake reacts. If the snake begins to look agitated, remain still until it moves away from you.
- If the snake is close then remain still until the snake moves away from you.

Reference: Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Snake Bites

In Australia, there are about 3000 snake bites per year. Many cases of snake bite occur when people try to handle, catch or kill a snake. Snakes can be active any time of day, even later in the evening, so be extra vigilant.

- DO NOT attempt to catch or kill snakes
- DO NOT provoke or corner a snake

First Aid

(Reference: Queensland Department of Health)

Snakebites can be life threatening.

- Call 000 immediately.
- Keep the person still.
- Do not wash, cut, suck, or apply a tourniquet to the bite.
- Apply pressure immobilisation first aid described on pages 15 to 17.
- Wait for medical help.

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The bite site may be painless. Symptoms may include:

- **Within 1hr:** Headache (an vital symptom), irritability, sensitivity to light, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, confusion; coagulation abnormalities; occasionally sudden hypotension with loss of consciousness.
- **1-3 hrs:** Cranial nerve paralysis (ptosis, diplopia, dysphagia etc), abdominal pain, haemoglobinuria, hypertension, tachycardia, haemorrhage.
- **Beyond 3hrs:** Limb and respiratory muscle paralysis leading to respiratory failure, peripheral circulatory failure with pallor and cyanosis, myoglobinuria, eventually death.

Pressure Immobilization First Aid

“Pressure-Immobilization First Aid” is recommended by Queensland Health. Its purpose is to slow the movement of venom from the bite site into the circulation, thus buying time to reach medical care. Research has shown that very little venom reaches the blood stream if firm pressure is applied over the bitten area and the limb is immobilized.

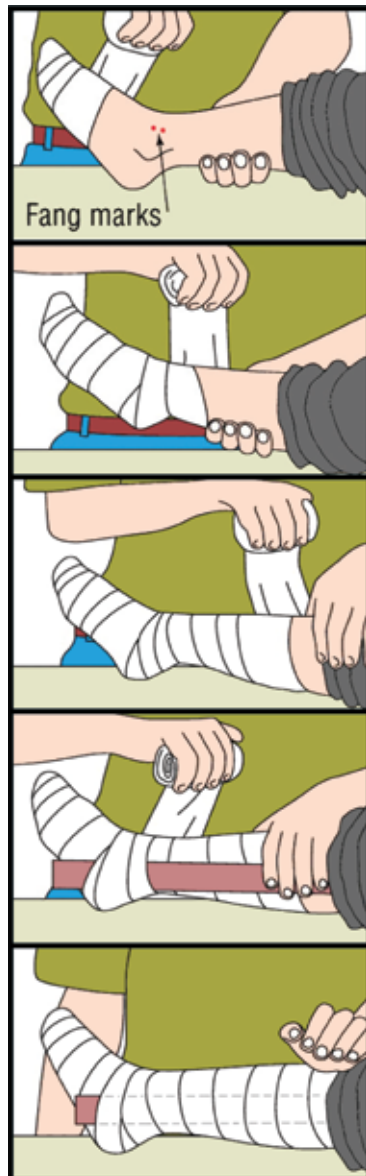
Keep some Compression Bandages in your First Aid kit. One brand called AeroForm includes an indicator to get the optimum pressure. Advise all family members how to correctly use the bandages.

Please refer to the illustration on the right.

Bandages and splinting, when correctly applied, should be comfortable for hours.

IMPORTANT:

- Stay calm. Remain still. Seek assistance. In Australia, Call 000 for an ambulance.
- DO NOT wash or touch the wound. Traces of venom may help identify the snake.
- Only the doctor should remove the bandages.



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Bites to the lower limb

- Apply a broad compression bandage over the bite site as soon as possible. Crepe bandages are ideal, but any flexible material may be used. For example, clothing, towels, pantyhose may be torn into strips.
- DO NOT take off clothing as the movement can push venom into the bloodstream. Keep still.
- Bandage upwards from the lower portion of the bitten limb. Bandage as tightly as you would apply to a sprained ankle. Bandage as high as possible on the limb.
- Apply a splint to the leg. Any rigid object may be used. Bind it as firmly to as much of the leg as possible.

Bites to the hand or forearm

- Bandage as much of the arm as possible, starting at the fingers.
- Use a splint from hand to the elbow.
- Use a sling to immobilize the arm.

Bites to the trunk

- Restrict chest movement and keep still until the ambulance arrives.

Bites to the head or neck

- Keep still until the ambulance arrives.

References: Queensland Department of Health. Images © Commonwealth Serum Laboratories. Dr. Struan K. Sutherland, Sydney University.

This first aid information is general guidance only. Always follow the instructions of emergency services and current official first aid guidance.

FAQ

How many repellents do I need?

Every home and garden is different. The key is to position the repellents so their vibration areas overlap, leaving no gaps in coverage. Take time to understand the Installation Guide on page 5 & 6. A simple sketch of your property can help you plan the best layout.

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Do Sureguard Snake Repellents make a noise?

A correctly installed unit should transfer most vibration into the soil rather than into airborne sound. All snake repellents produce vibration and some audible sound. The vibration does the real work. Poor installation can make them noisier with less vibration range. If installing near living areas, consider the Ultra-Quiet model.

I saw a snake moving off in the direction of a repellent, why?

If a snake is calmly moving, it will usually avoid the vibration. But if it's startled or frightened, it may rush straight through the area. That's a natural "flight response."

Do Sureguard Snake Repellents repel lizards, eg. Blue Tongues, etc.?

No. They are designed for snakes only, and there's no evidence they affect lizards.

Do Sureguard Snake Repellents repel frogs, toads, birds, pets, etc.?

No, they are only designed for snakes.

Can snakes get used to the vibration so it becomes less effective?

It's possible but uncommon. It usually only happens if a snake feels trapped. Avoid placing a repellent where it blocks an escape path—let the snake leave first, then install.

Can snakes be caught inside the protective boundary?

Yes, if they're already there. You can have them professionally removed, or install units near the centre first and gradually move them outward to guide snakes away.

I found a snake sunning itself on some garden steps. Why wasn't it repelled?

The vibration travels through soil, not hard surfaces. If there's a gap (like a concrete path), a snake can pass through it. Make sure repellents are positioned to cover both sides of these areas.

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I have a snake in my roof, can I place the repellent there?

No. These must be installed in the ground. Do not mount them on roofs, gutters, trees, or other structures.

My repellent has cracked below the cap. Do you have spare parts?

Spare parts are not available for the outer case. Avoid using grass trimmers (whipper snippers) around the unit, as impact can cause the case to crack. If appropriate, carefully use a suitable herbicide around the repellent to keep vegetation clear.

My repellent has water in it. What should I do?

Always ensure the cap is fully secured. It should turn about a quarter turn and feel firm against the rubber seal. Check the seal is intact and avoid directing water jets at the unit. Use only alkaline batteries. Do not mix old and new batteries. Replace them as soon as vibration stops. If batteries have leaked, the unit may no longer function.

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Manufacturer's Warranty

Sureguard provides a Manufacturer's Warranty to the original purchaser or gift recipient to cover defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 12 month.

Extend your Warranty to 3 Years!

www.sureguard.com.au/warranty-extended

Australian Consumer Law Guarantee

Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure.

Your Warranty, Returns & Full Terms

Sureguard backs every product with a Manufacturer's Warranty. Direct purchases may also be covered by our 30-Day Money Back Guarantee, subject to our terms and conditions.

For full details on your warranty, how to make a claim, our money back guarantee, and your rights as a customer, please visit: **www.sureguard.com.au/terms**

Or contact our Technical Team directly — we're here to help. 1800-800-044

A printed copy of our Terms and Conditions is available free of charge on request.



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*Sureguard provides quality animal containment and
behaviour solutions that are effective and easy to use.
It's always "Better By Sureguard"!*

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Installation Video:



www.sureguard.com.au/video_snake