

Unusual Uses for the Indoor Bug Zapper

I don't know if you have ever used a handheld, indoor bug zapper, but I think that they are awe-inspiring. I'm talking about the handheld sort that looks like a child's plastic, toy tennis racquet. They come in two basic forms. I rather the rechargeable bug zapper, for the reason that batteries end up costing more than the indoor bug zapper itself, although you could always buy rechargeable batteries, but then they are high-priced too.

My wife and I like to spend time in the garden. We meet friends there, dine there and in general loaf about outside, as do most folks about here, when they are not working. What's more, it's much cooler outside than inside. A comfortable chair, a few snacks, a cool drink and a book or a companion and life does not get much better. In fact, it's idyllic.

That is until about six or seven o'clock when the first squadron of mosquitoes have judged that the sun's rays have lost enough strength that they will not evaporate and they come out searching for blood. Some evenings are worse than others, of course. More often than not, the mosquitoes are fairly tolerable, particularly seeing as I have discovered the indoor bug zapper. (I don't know why it is called an 'indoor bug zapper', it is just as effective outdoors as in)..

It's not that I like to slaughter things, but I find it difficult to have sympathy for mosquitoes. Nevertheless, I do get a certain amount of pleasure from seeing and hearing mosquitoes and other bugs literally explode with a flash and a spark as they come into contact with the electric and earth wires of the indoor bug zapper. These electric bug zappers can pack quite a charge, particularly if the batteries are new or the pack is fully charged.

The other day, I found a novel use for my handheld, indoor bug zapper. I'll tell you how it came about. I was in the garden, as normal, and my bug zapper was close at hand as the first wave of mosquitoes was expected. I had my book in one hand and the bug zapper on my knees, when my wife asked me to go to the store for her. No problem, so, I set off on the five minute walk.

I was half-way there when I realized that I had the indoor bug zapper in my hand, but it was not worth taking it home and beginning the journey again. Anyway, on my return trip, I had my small bag of groceries in one hand and the indoor bug zapper in the other, when a local tyrant of a dog came running out of a garden right for me. This has occurred often and, although he has never bitten me yet, it is quite intimidating. He stood there glaring at me with teeth bared and his 'pack' of sundry neighborhood pals came out to surround me and join in.

I don't actually know what the best course of action is in this situation. I have tried holding my ground, but the intimidation just continues and I have tried to continue walking, but he gets worryingly close sometimes. This time, I suddenly lashed out with the indoor bug zapper and just hit him on the snout. Well, I'm not sure whether it hurt him, it did not appear to too much, but it gave him a very nasty shock in more ways than one, I can tell you! He leapt about four feet into the air as if he were on a pogo stick and then fled for all he was worth with all his friends behind him. It was very gratifying after six months of persecution from this dog.

Anyway, I don't take my indoor bug zapper everywhere with me, but I will in future, if any further local dogs bother me. I know it works a treat. I have seen that one since, but he stays far away from me and doesn't utter a squeak. I think I would take my indoor bug zapper with me, if I were wandering in an strange part of town or the park nevertheless.

About the Author

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