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How to prepare your home for a Spray Bedbug Treatment

If you have bed bugs in your home, you can get help to get rid of them by booking treatments and following the preparation and treatment instructions carefully during the whole process. Getting rid of bedbugs is not easy, but it can be resolved. **The better the preparation, the faster bed bugs can be eliminated.**

Bed bugs can hide almost anywhere in a home. Signs of infestation are blood spotting on bed sheets and skin reactions. They feed on people and can bite anywhere, but especially in exposed areas including the face, neck, arms and hands.

Treatments will take place in both bedroom and living room areas. Treatment will include spraying and dusting. Areas to be treated will include baseboards, cracks and crevices, upholstered furniture, sofa, bookcase, shelving unit, mattresses, box spring, dressers and any living room and bedroom furniture inside your home.

Bed bug removal includes two (2) treatment visits. After the first treatment, a follow up treatment is required after two (2) weeks. In some cases more treatments might be needed. **You will need to leave your home for four (4) hours after treatment. People with health issues like difficulty breathing, a weak immune system, as well as pregnant women or newborns under 18 months, should stay out of the unit for 12 to 24 hours.**

You must stay fully prepared for the complete four (4) week treatment period. Do not open any clothing bags or storage containers that have been cleaned or cleared of bed bugs. If you open any bags or containers you will be re-infested with bed bugs during the treatment process and all treatments will need to be re-book again. You can keep a separate bag of clothes out for use during this period.

How did my unit get infested?

The most common cause of bed bugs is from getting used furniture, mattresses or clothing. Infestations can also be brought in on the clothing from guests or from places where people visit or travel. Bed bugs are hitchhikers and can be brought back through hiding in your clothing, luggage or items you have picked

up. Excessive clutter, mattresses placed directly against a wall, clothing on the floor and piles of belongings make it easier for bed bugs to find hiding places and difficult for a good treatment to happen.

Preparation for bed bugs treatment A thorough preparation is required in all areas your home.

- Wash all clothes and bed sheets in hot water. Place in dryer on the high heat setting for 45 minutes to kill adult bed bugs and eggs.
- Place curtains, comforters or items that cannot be washed in the dryer and heat for 45 minutes.
- Place clean and heat-treated (dryer) clothes in new garbage bags or cleaned containers and seal tightly.
- Do not open containers or garbage bags until you are certain there's no more bedbugs in your home.
- Wheelchairs and scooters may need to be treated, notify Super if you have one.
- Keep a few clothing items, that have been cleaned and heat treated (dryer), for daily use during the 4 weeks.
- Move bed and furniture away from the walls.
- Check hard covered books, magazines and papers.
- Empty items from living room cabinets and furniture and place in sealed bags.
- Empty items from bedroom drawers, nightstand and place in sealed bags.
- Remove items from the closet and floors.
- Vacuum unit before treatment. It will help reduce the infestation for better results.
- Throw out the vacuum bag immediately. Seal tightly in a double plastic bag.

After treatment you may see bed bug activity after two (2) weeks and a second treatment is necessary and scheduled 14 days after your first treatment.

You may purchase plastic or cotton encasements for mattress and box spring.

Do not pick up any items that have been thrown out in the garbage and bring it home.

Preparation Checklist for bed Bugs

You must stay fully prepared for the complete four (4) week treatment period.

Bedroom

- Clothes washed in hot water and dried on high heat for 45 minutes and placed in a sealed bag.
- Bed sheets, pillow cases, covers and bed skirt washed in hot water and dried on high heat for 45 minutes and placed in a sealed bag.
- Comforters, curtains and items that cannot be washed have been placed in a high heat dryer cycle for 45 minutes.
- Empty all items from dresser drawers, night table and place in sealed bags.
- Dresser drawers have been removed and placed on top of dresser.
- Mattress and box spring have been placed upright against the wall.
- Remove from closet hanging or floor items and put in sealed bags.
- Pull furniture 12 inches away from the wall and baseboards.
- Unplug electronics in the bedroom.

- Removed items and clutter from floor.
- Vacuum bed, dressers, blinds, all furniture, baseboards and floor areas.

Living Room, Dining Room, Closets

- Pull furniture 12 inches away from the walls and baseboards.
- Remove curtains and wash or place in a high hot dryer cycle for 45 minutes.
- Place sofa on its side so technician can have access to the under area.
- Empty closet shelves and remove any items hanging or touching the floors.
- Remove items and clutter off all floors.
- Vacuum sofa, cushions and sitting areas.
- Vacuum all furniture, blinds, baseboards, carpet and floor.

Pets

- Remove pets from the unit (dog, cat, caged bird etc).
- Fish tank air pump should be turned off and top covered with plastic.

General

- On treatment day, shower and change into freshly laundered clothes before leaving unit.
- Towels and cloth household items have been washed in hot water and dried on high heat for 45 minutes and placed in a sealed bag.
- All electronics have been unplugged.
- All electrical outlets and switch plates are accessible.
- All pictures, painting, mirrors or wall accessories have been removed from walls.
- Place all treated sealed bags in area that is not receiving treatment