

Bed Bug Treatment Preparation Checklist

Property Name: _____ Date: _____

Resident: _____ Unit# _____

PRE-TREATMENT CHECK LIST:

___ Every room in the apartment needs to be prepared for treatment even if the resident has only seen bedbugs in one room. **If every room is not prepared, we will not treat. There will be a \$50 charge for each unit that is unprepared for a scheduled treatment.**

___ Strip the bed(s) and launder all sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads, and blankets. Place in sealed plastic bags.

___ Remove everything from bedroom closet(s) inspect for bedbugs and place in sealed plastic bags.

___ Remove everything from dresser drawers, nightstands, and dressing tables inspect for bedbugs and place in sealed plastic bags.

___ Have all clothing and fabrics laundered (hot wash / hot dryer cycle) or dry-cleaned.

___ Remove drapes and have them laundered, dry cleaned, or replaced.

___ Reduce clutter: Bed bugs like to hide in small places, books, cds, etc cannot be treated. Discard cardboard boxes, shoeboxes, paper and plastic bags, old newspapers, stacks of magazines, and similar items in all potentially infested rooms. Children's toys should be inspected for bedbugs and sealed in plastic bags until after treatment.

___ Vacuum everything: Physically removing as many bed bugs as possible is key to a successful treatment. Everything includes (but is not limited to): carpet, couches, love seats, upholstered chairs, easy chairs, mattresses and box springs, double bag the vacuum cleaner bag and dispose of in a dumpster. If vacuum does not have bag, empty contents of canister into plastic bag, double bag, dispose of in dumpster and wash canister in hot soapy water.

___ All food items and preparation items should be placed in cabinets or drawers.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Discarding of any compromised (ripped / torn) materials or heavily infested items may be required.
- Dismantling of bed frames and other items will be performed as part of the service program.
- Should the box spring remain, removal of the dustcover underside is required for proper inspection and/or application.
- Dustcover underside of other furniture items will be removed and discarded for proper inspection and/or treatment.
- Zippered mattress / box spring encasements are available as an option at additional cost. Mattresses can be used (back on bed frame) but it is recommended that encasements be used for a minimum of 18 months. Linens are to go over the encasements.
- When laundering, a hot water & detergent cycle + hot dryer must be used. Leave laundered items in sealed bags until after treatment.
- A clutter-free environment must be provided in order to allow access for the service technician to treat all of the needed areas.
- Before removing all bagged items the client should inspect for pest activity.
- The client should not touch or move any monitoring device placed by the technician.
- “Booster” insecticide treatments **MUST NOT** be performed by the client.
- **All residents, occupants, guests and pets must vacate the unit during treatment and for a minimum of three hours after treatment. Fish bowls and aquariums may remain in home if covered with plastic and filtration systems are turned off and covered.**

I have read and understand preparation requirements and frequently asked questions. I understand that pest control chemical treatments will not be successful without completion of preparation requirements and post treatment recommendations.

Resident Signature: _____

Property Management Signature: _____

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: *What Methods are used?*

A: We treat the mattress, box spring, bed frame, night stands, dressers, furniture, baseboards, outlets and any other necessary areas.

Q: *How do the things that are taken from drawers and put into bags treated?*

A: The drawers are treated inside and out. We do not treat your personal items. You can however, wash clothing before you put them in the bags or before you put them back into the drawers. If a bedbug is put back in a drawer it would have to crawl across the treated areas when prowling for a blood meal and would then die.

Q: *I know I have to vacate for at least three hours but how long does the actual treatment take?*

A: Plan on 1 to 1 1/2 hours for a one bedroom apartment. This time can vary depending on how much or how little storage is in the room. A sparsely furnished room may only take a 1/2 hour, where a cluttered room may take longer.

Q: *Is there a guarantee?*

A: Bedbug treatments are not guaranteed and an established bedbug remedy may take up to three services. A heavier infestation may take more follow-up treatments.

Q: *I've heard that bedbugs are hard to get rid of or impossible, is this true?*

A: No, when the proper chemicals are used, the areas are treated properly and **most important**-you've prepared for the service well and follow all the technicians' instructions, bedbugs can be controlled. It may take time and patience but it can be done. The only times it can seem that way is if there is reintroduction, meaning you keep bringing new bedbugs back to your home through traveling, guests or bringing infested furniture, mattresses or other items into your home. Another way it can feel unsuccessful is if the customer doesn't prepare correctly for the service and that causes the technician to be unable to treat areas he needs to or you stop the necessary follow-ups before the bedbug problem is resolved. Bedbugs can live solely off humans and if you leave any bedbugs behind, the bedbug problem can continue.

Q: *When can I sleep in my room again?*

A: It is important to continue sleeping in the room after the treatments. If the room is vacant then the bugs won't move around from deeper recesses. Bedbugs can live up to a year without a blood meal which outlives the chemical residuals. Bedbugs come out when they detect carbon dioxide that is emitted from a warm blooded mammal. So as our breath and other gases build up in a room the bedbugs then come out. If the bedbugs cannot detect a host, they will stay in their hiding places.

Q: *How can I avoid getting bedbugs again?*

A: Bedbugs are a big problem for travelers. If you travel, you should check your hotel room for evidence of bedbugs. Move the headboard and look behind it. You can also pull the sheets away from the mattress and look for the bugs or their droppings. Keep your suitcases off the floor and put them on the rack, table, chair or counter. Upon arriving home from your travels, you can unload your suitcases outside and launder the clothing before bringing them back into your bedroom. Thoroughly examine everything before bringing them inside. If you have guests that are from an area or home that has known bedbugs or if they had been staying in hotels before arriving to your home, you can have them go through same process.

Bedbugs hitch a ride on luggage, used furniture, backpacks, purses, and anywhere else you pack and store personal items. You may not be able to completely avoid bedbugs in the future, but awareness is the first step in trying to avoid this uncomfortable and expensive problem.

Q: *What are the chances the bedbugs will be gone after the first treatment?*

A: We encounter different levels of bedbugs in each situation. If treatment occurs within the first two weeks of the introduction of bedbugs, there's a good chance the first treatment could correct the problem. Many times however, the professional pest control company was brought in much later after the initial problem turned into an infestation. The longer the problem has been developing the more follow-up services is expected. We generally expect an average bedbug treatment to take about three treatments spaced apart two to four weeks. If bites reoccur or are continuing after the second treatment, a follow-up treatment should be scheduled.