

Treatment Preparations for Bed Bugs

1. Wash all clothing, bedding, and linens with hot, soapy water. This includes clothes in closets, dressers, etc. Dry in the dryer on high heat. Finally, bag up the items, hand tie the bag, and leave the items in bags until treatment is complete.
2. Remove all curtains and pillows and dry them on a high heat cycle for 30 minutes. Finally, bag up the items, hand tie the bag, and leave the items in bags until treatment is complete.
3. Stuffed animals, soft toys, and blankets must also be treated the same way. Run these items through the dryer on high heat for 30 minutes. Bag up the items, hand tie the bag, and leave the items in bags until treatment is complete.
4. Remove clutter from furniture tops, beds stands, and under beds. Clean the items and place them in bags or boxes. Place your bags and boxes in a different area of the home, like the kitchen or garage during treatment.
5. Remove pictures, posters, and other decor from walls. Clean the items. Place them away for storage in a different area of the home, like the kitchen or garage during treatment. Outlet and switch covers also need to be removed to properly prepare for treatment.
6. Mattresses and box springs are to be discarded or accessible for treatment. If treatment, mattresses and box springs must be put in bed bug proof mattress encasements, which can be purchased from IPM Services*.
7. All clothing, toys, shoes, and all other items must be picked up off the floor and put in enclosed containers in order to properly treat carpeted areas.
8. All pet food and water bowls and containers will need to be emptied and removed from the treatment area. Fish tanks need to be covered with a sheet, and the air pump needs to be turned off during treatment.
9. **Everyone in the home, including pets, will need to leave the property for 3 to 4 hours after treatment has occurred.**
10. Do NOT shampoo carpets for at least 30 days after treatment has taken place.
11. If you vacuum the home, take the bag or canister to an outside trash can for emptying. It's smart to empty the contaminants from the vacuum cleaner into a plastic trash bag to minimize the spread of bed bugs.
12. Any items taken outside of the home need to be wrapped in plastic to reduce the spread of bed bugs.

Bed bug mattress encasements must be purchased before treatment and can be purchased through IPM Services. Measurements for length, width, and depth of all mattresses and box springs must be called into IPM Services at least ONE day before the scheduled treatment.

