

Preparations for “First Time” or “Cleanout” **Bed bug** treatments:

It is imperative that you follow the instructions as outlined below to have an effective treatment. Bed bugs require the most prep work by occupants than all other pests.

If you are using any commercially available (over the counter) pesticides, discontinue use immediately. These products can prevent the effectiveness of the professional products we will be using. If you observe any live bed bugs before treatment, you can spray them with 90% rubbing alcohol. The alcohol can kill them on contact but has no residual effect, (once it evaporates it's done).

FIRST AREA: Bedrooms (complete before moving on to “second area”)

- Remove all linen from the bed(s) and wash.
- Remove mattress from top of box spring and place both mattress and box spring on their side (we will need to have access to area under the bed).
- Remove everything from headboard(s) and place in sealable plastic bags.
- Remove all items from dresser/vanity/night stand/armoire drawers and place in sealable plastic bags.
- Place bags where they will not restrict access to bedroom.
- Remove all items from inside closets and place where they will not restrict access to the closet.
- Suggested areas that do not restrict access to the bedroom: basement, garage or bathroom, OR ideally in bath tub.

SECOND AREA: Living/Family Rooms (complete before moving on to “third area”)

- Roll up all “area” and “throw rugs” and place together in area where they can be treated. The garage or basement is suggested for this.
- Move all furniture at least two (2) feet away from the walls.
- Remove all items from coffee/end/sofa tables as well as bookshelves, hutches, tv stands, cd/dvd/tape cabinets and entertainment units and place in sealable plastic bags.
- Place bags where they will not restrict access.

THIRD AREA: Kitchen (complete before moving on to “fourth area”)

- Place all dishes, food (canned or boxed) into plastic bags and close tightly.
- Place the bags in the center of the kitchen or someplace where they will not interfere with service personnel accessing the cabinets and baseboards.
- Areas in front of refrigerators and stoves will need three (3) feet of clearance.

FOURTH AREA: Bathroom (complete before moving on to “fifth area”)

- Remove all medicines, toothbrushes, personal care products and place into plastic bags and close tightly. Place in a location where they will not impede access to bathroom. The bathtub is suggested for this.

FIFTH AREA: Basements: (complete before moving on to “sixth area”)

- Move all clothing and stored items away from washer, dryer and sink areas. Locations where the walls and ceilings as well as the walls and floors meet need to be accessible to service personnel.

SIXTH AREA: Garage:

- Move all items two feet away from walls.

For one week to ten (10) days following the treatment you may notice an increase in pest activity. If this occurs do not be concerned. This is a result of the treatment driving the pests out of their nesting/hiding areas.

Unless instructed otherwise, the kitchen and bathrooms can be returned to their pretreatment condition two (2) hours after initial treatment. It will not be necessary to prep these areas again for the follow-up treatments.

We strongly recommend that small children, the elderly, people with respiratory problems and pets vacate the premises during the treatment and remain away for at least two (2) hours after the treatment is completed.

We suggest that you use a bed frame which is to raise your mattress off the floor (blow up mattresses are highly discouraged when dealing with bed bugs) for all of your sleeping arrangements. We also highly recommend installing professional mattress covers on all bedding, even on beds in rooms where there was no evidence of an active infestation. We have over ten (10) years' experience with “PROTECT•A•BED” brand of covers and have found them to be very effective and reasonably priced, www.protectabed.com. If ordered through us, we will provide a no cost installation. We also recommend the installation of their “LightsOut BedBug Detector” on all bed posts, www.protectabed.com/bedbug-heat-treatment/lightsout.asp. These do an excellent job of trapping bed bugs and help determine if they are migrating from or to your bedding. Disregard the pricing on their website, we can purchase their products at a discount and pass the savings on to you.