



HEAT TREATMENT PEST CONTROL PREPARATION

Your home is scheduled for a pest control heat treatment. Clean hot air will be introduced to your home and the interior temperature inside raised to approximately 140 degrees F (60 degrees C). This temperature will kill bed bugs and their eggs, cockroaches as well as other insects. In order to ensure a successful treatment, you will need to perform the following preparation steps:

1. The following precautions are to protect items of a delicate nature. Please remove the following items from the treatment area prior to commencement of the work.

- Persons, plants, animals
- Candles, wax, crayons
- Lipstick and other meltable cosmetics
- Medicines and vitamins
- Records, CDs/DVDs/BluRays, tapes
- Plastic blinds
- Arts and crafts assembled with wax or glues
- Photographs (may stick together)
- Aerosol cans, fire extinguishers & other combustible items
- Cigarette lighters
- Magnets
- Fresh fruit, vegetables (not stored in fridge)
- Valuable oil paintings, acrylics (art work)
- Antique furniture with fragile finish or glue points

If you are unsure as to whether or not an item may be damaged by heat, please contact our office.

It is extremely important that any items removed from your premises be closely inspected for the presence of the pest being treated for. If the removed items have bugs in or attached to them, they will be reintroduced to your premises when you bring the item back in and the treatment will not be successful.

Closely inspect each item that is to be removed and wash it thoroughly with hot water and soap. Pests can attach to your pets such as cats and dogs. It is important to **thoroughly bathe and clean your pet before they return to the premises.** Live plants can also harbor bed bugs. Closely inspect the plant and soil. If in doubt, discard the plant.

2. All clothing and bedding should be placed loosely in clothes hampers or hung loosely in closets. Any clothing suspected to have bugs can be washed and dried with hot temperatures. Once the clothing is cleaned; it should be placed into clothes hampers or hung in a closet. Bed bugs will nest in dressers, closets and wardrobes.

Remove all clothing from the drawers and place them on hangers if possible. Pillows can be left loose in the room. If you have jackets and items that are dry clean only, they can be left on hangers in a closet however they cannot be packed tightly. The heat will kill any bugs in the clothing however some space is required for airflow.

3. In order to ensure air flow and heat penetration, our technicians may stand mattresses and box springs on end, move furniture away from the walls, remove items from closets, tip sofas and couches, remove cushions etc. This may result in dirt and dust being disturbed. We will *not* vacuum and clean after the treatment. As our technicians will be moving tables and dressers for access, ornaments and items on tables, dressers, window sills, etc. should be stored in a closet or cabinet. Fans are placed to circulate the hot air and any loose papers will be blown about. Papers should be placed in drawers or cabinets.

If you have a storage locker/closet in your apartment, please ensure it is not tightly packed. In order for the heat to kill the bugs, the hot air must flow around items.

4. On the day of treatment, please have a set of clean clothing for each resident to wear when leaving the premises. The clothing from the night before can be left in the bedrooms. Our technicians will spread this clothing out and treat it. Wash the clothing when you return.

It is very important you closely inspect anything you take out with you. For example, a children's book bag can harbor bed bugs. If this is taken out during the day of treatment and bought back that evening, a re-infestation could occur. Bed bugs are often brought to your home when you travel. A hotel may have an infestation and the bed bugs will climb into your suitcase. When you return home, the bugs are introduced to your premises via the suitcase. If you have suitcases, please leave them out for heat treatment.

On the day of treatment, our technicians will arrive between 8:30 am and 10:30 am depending upon your location and traffic. In most situations, treatment will be complete by 5:30 pm. After treatment is completed, you will be able to return to your premises as there is no chemical usage. The premises will be warm however the heat will dissipate in time. You may find dead bugs about the premises. Please perform a complete vacuuming and cleaning after the treatment.

BED BUG CONTROL TIPS

Bed bugs are inadvertently introduced into your home through the following situations:

- **Picking up bed bug-infested beds, mattresses, or furniture that has been discarded and placed on the street or by a dumpster.**
- **Visiting someone who has bed bugs and carrying them back with you on your clothing or possessions. (Children playing together in one home after another can be transferring bed bugs in their toys and backpacks.)**
- **Staying overnight in a bed bug-infested room in a hotel or home and bringing the bugs home in your luggage.**
- **Renting furniture infested with bed bugs from furniture rental companies.**
- **Buying bed bug infested second-hand furniture, carpets, blankets, luggage, pictures, and fixtures from stores, yard sales, auctions, and flea markets.**
- **Bed bugs can also migrate from one apartment to the next through pipe and wiring runs, and through wall and ceiling voids, in the same way that cockroaches move between apartments.**

Once you have found bed bugs it important to take immediate action before they spread.