

## **BEDBUG PREPARATION CHECKLIST**

 Sofas, chairs and recliners (if slept on) should be stripped
 Mattresses and box springs should be discarded if heavily infested
 Remove all bedding and linens and wash in the hottest water and dry in the hottest settings possible. Items must dry an additional 15 minutes AFTER becoming dry to ensure accurate heat levels
 Empty dresser drawers and closets. Wash clothing in the hottest water possible and highest dryer settings (fabric permitting) and place in a plastic bag until treatment is rendered. It is best to also vacuum area thoroughly before treatment and throwaway vacuum bag.
 Pull furniture and all other items away from walls. Empty drawers for inspection that are within six feet of infested area. Empty drawers from captains beds as well as removing any boxes under bed.
 Remove all hanging pictures and decorations from walls
 Pack all books and magazines into black garbage liners.
 Customer should remove the cotton cover on underside of box spring to expose internal springs
 Inspect recently used luggage and travel bags for bedbugs
 It may be necessary for the customer to discard any electrical items near the infested areas such as; alarm clocks, phones, stereos hair dryers, etc.

We stress that you purchase Bed bug proof mattress and box spring covers. You can purchase them at Gracious Homes or Bed Bath & Beyond. They should be hypoallergenic. These are to be put on after treatment.

Please remember that all occupants (including pets) must remain out of the treated areas for approximately four hours after treatment is completed or until all treated surfaces are dry. Bed bugs can be difficult to eliminate and a second treatment may be necessary.

Bedbugs can be introduced into structures through any different avenues. New mattresses and/or furniture can be the cause. Also, they may be introduced through luggage and travel bags from a recent trip. Bed bugs are nocturnal insects and are primarily active only at night. They hide in tiny cracks and crevices and come out to feed (biting people). Our treatment plan targets the hiding areas and treats them appropriately. The more we have access the greater the chance of eliminating them quickly.

There have not been any scientific and/or medical evidence linking these insects to disease. Bedbugs are merely a nuisance that typically cause a small bump with minor irritation like a mosquito bite.

When your apartment is being treated you should not apply your own pesticides. This will reduce the effectiveness of the professional pesticides, as well as cause the bedbugs to scatter.

After treatment, a canister vacuum would be helpful in vacuuming up dead bed bugs and eggs. Make sure the the canister is clean or bag is thrown away after use.