

# BED BUG PREPARATION SHEET

## Preparing for Your Bed Bug Treatment:

Proper preparation is key to getting rid of your Bed Bug infestation. Empire Pest Control will provide you with a detailed check list on what to do to be prepared for your scheduled treatment. We cannot stress the importance that these items are taken care of to ensure the most effective results.

**Please note:** Empire Pest Control will not provide treatment to a property that has not meet the criteria of the checklist.



## Packing and Furniture Preparations:

All furniture should be pulled away from baseboards and wall by at least 2 feet. Bookcases and desk contents provide a hiding place for bed bugs. They should be emptied of their contents and remain empty for treatment. Items stored in sealed containers may remain unopened.

1. Remove decorative items from walls and place on the floor in center of the room.
2. Lift mattresses and box springs out of bed frame and stand them up against the wall.
3. Remove and discard the box spring backing.
4. Empty closets placing items in plastic bags and move to center of the room.
5. Contents of dressers/desks/nightstands need to be placed in plastic bags and moved to the center of the room.
6. Open any sleeper sofas, futons or convertible beds for treatment.
7. Pick up everything from the floor that could be considered an obstacle.

**Please note:** All homes that have excess clutter will NOT be treated. A successful treatment cannot be achieved where there is excess clutter and untidiness.

## Laundering:

Everything that can be washed should, then place in clean/new plastic bags or plastic containers.

1. Wash all linens, clothing, stuffed animals, drapes, bedding, bed skirts etc.
2. Use the highest allowable heat seating for both the washer and dryer whenever possible.
3. Bags used to transport laundry prior to washing/drying cycles should never be reused and should be discarded outside of the property. All clean items should be placed in new bags and sealed and remain sealed during treatment process.
4. Items that cannot be washed but can be dried should be at a high heat temperature for minimum of 30 minutes. Discard any debris collected in the lint trap after each cycle.
5. Items that cannot be laundered should be taken to the dry cleaner.

## Vacuuming

Removal of bed bugs by vacuuming thoroughly is an important part of preparing for the treatment process. Use the crevice attachment to access bed bugs hiding inside mattress seams, furniture interiors, baseboards and any other place a bed bug could be hiding.

1. Vacuum floors, carpets and area rugs.
2. Vacuum mattresses including all crevices, handles and buttons.
3. Vacuum baseboards, bed frame, sofas, futons, recliners and any stuffed or upholstered furniture.
4. Discard vacuum bags or contents after each use.

### Surface Preparations:

Wipe down all surfaces with a damp cloth, including baseboard, behind furniture, end tables, headboards, dressers and none upholstered services.

### Disposal of Furniture:

As for disposing of items such as mattresses, box springs, sofa etc.: this is up to the individual homeowner due to the cost involved in replacement of these items. It is clear that replacing these items alone will not resolve the bed bug issue. Empire Pest Control recommends the installation of high-quality bed bug mattress encasements for all the beds in the home, to reduce the likelihood of bed bugs. Any need to discard the bed is eliminated once it has been treated and covered with an easement

If you decide to throw out your furniture, we recommend that you deface and damage these items so they will not be used by others. Mattresses should be slashed or otherwise damaged to make them unusable along with being wrapped in plastic before being removed from the bedroom.

**Please note:** Moving beds without completely enclosing the mattress and box spring in plastic may spread the infestation by allowing eggs, nymphs and adults to drop from the item as moved.

### Post Treatment:

Upon completed treatment we recommend staying out of the home for minimum of four hours. This allows an appropriate amount of time for the materials to dry. After the allotted time you, your children and pets may re-enter and resume normal household activities. However, to prevent repeating the preparation steps we do recommend that you not move your furniture and items back into place. In most cases a follow up treatment will be within 1-3 weeks from the initial treatment.

We do understand that our preparation list may present a considerable hardship for some, but we cannot stress the importance on the overall result of effectiveness it will have on your treatment. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.



**Empire Pest Control**

**616-796-8900**

11867 Greenway Drive Ste #30 – Holland MI 49424