

Bed Bug Control

CLIENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

In order for our company to provide the most effective service possible, we ask that before our arrival you review and complete all the necessary steps listed below. Your Abell technician will verify completion upon arrival. Please complete and return this form to the Abell representative when they arrive onsite. Failure to complete the following requests may delay the treatment and potentially void any guarantee if applicable. You may see live bed bugs for up to 2 weeks after the initial service, which is normal. Your Abell technician may provide additional preparation instructions or suggest less preparation based on the infestation level.



Checklist:

- Remove all electrical wall plates, phone jack plates and light switch covers.
- All electronic equipment should remain in the areas for treatment.
- Remove the front panel from heating/air conditioning units if in close proximity to the bed.
- Remove all bedding (sheets, pillows covers, comforters, etc. from your mattress and box spring), place in bags and take to the laundry room only when they can be placed directly into the washing machine using hot water and/ or placed into a dryer. Refer to **laundry directions** section below.
- Cabin beds with built-in storage: remove all clothing items from these storage areas and wash as per **laundry directions** below.
- Articles under the beds provide an ideal place for bed bugs to hide. All clothing or garments loose around the room must be bagged and laundered. All other objects that were previously stored under the bed should not be moved as bed bugs may be relocated into other areas of the structure.
- Pick up clothes off the floor and other areas, place in bags to be laundered as per **laundry directions** below.
- Clothing within bedside nightstands or stored close to beds (within 5 feet of the bed) should be bagged and laundered. It is not necessary to remove clean clothing or other items from inside dressers and closets unless these items are clearly infested (visible bed bugs).
- Access to the perimeter of the room is essential for a successful treatment. Move all furniture items away from the walls to allow access to the baseboards around the entire room.
- It is necessary for you and your pets to vacate the premises during the service and to not re-enter until at least 4 hours after the treatment. If additional time is required, your service technician will advise you at the time of service or leave an information notice at your premises. Persons with underlying health conditions should consult their family physician if they have concerns regarding re-entry time. Open windows for 20-30 minutes after re-entry. Fish aquariums may be left on site; however, they must be covered and air filters disconnected during service.

□ LAUNDRY DIRECTIONS: It is necessary that all garments be laundered in hot water (>60°C or > 140°F) or placed into a dryer on the highest setting for a minimum of 30 minutes (>60°C or >140°F). The dryer must be capable of reaching a temperature of >60°C and not be loaded to more than 50% capacity. All laundered items must remain out of the treatment

area during service. Clothing and fabrics associated with beds/sofas cannot be treated with pesticides due to the prolonged contact with skin. It is for this reason that this step is crucial and necessary to ensure the treatment program does not fail with the re-introduction of bedbugs from infested clothing.

Post-Treatment Actions to be Performed by the Resident

The follow-up service will occur approximately 3-4 weeks after the initial treatment. To reduce the amount of prep work for you, the resident, we advise you not to completely reassemble your home until the follow-up service has been performed. These accompanying measures should be taken during the period between the initial and follow-up services:

□ Do not tamper with any of the devices left in place such as the box spring and mattress protective encasements. These will protect the mattresses and box springs from becoming re-infested and will prevent bedbugs potentially already within these objects from re-infesting the home. Mattress encasements are available

for purchase through your Abell Service Technician and should be installed during or soon after the initial service completed by Abell. Abell will install box spring encasements as part of the treatment program.

- Please leave all other objects in their original state of preparation until the follow-up service has been completed (i.e. electrical outlet covers removed, pictures off of the walls, etc. Do not store objects under the beds.
- Do not introduce any new or used furniture or any other potentially infested items not previously in the unit
- Avoid moving in any new occupants in the apartment unit or house that were not previously occupying the unit.

Future Prevention Against Bed Bugs

□ When travelling both outside of and within the country always inspect hotel rooms to ensure they are free of bed bugs. Inspect the bed, box spring and mattress, paying close attention to the mattress piping, plastic protective caps for the box spring, and the headboard. When returning home bag and launder all clothing and be sure to inspect suitcases for bed bugs – this stage is preferably done outside or in a garage.

□ Do not buy used furniture, electronics or beds unless you can verify their origin and are confident they are free of potential bed bug presence.

□ Periodically perform an inspection of your home focusing on the sleeping quarters and inspecting the bed and furniture in close proximity to the bed. Never open the box spring or mattress encasement covers. Bed bugs hide in cracks and crevices and prefer wood and fabric surfaces so they will be found in these areas most often.

□ Bed bugs are highly mobile but typically remain close to the host. They are generally only active at night to avoid detection, however can be found during daytime as well when inspecting areas where they like to hide.

CLIENT INFORMATION

Client's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Date: _____

Notes: _____

Video version of this preparation form is now available on  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzNFZlLRNE>

