

Preparing For Your Bed Bug Treatment

Proper preparation is an essential step for ensuring the most effective results from your upcoming bed bug treatment. Preparation involves everything from providing adequate access to your unit or property, to cleaning and post- treatment recommendations. We understand that appropriate preparation can be difficult to achieve in a short period of time and that senior citizens or handicapped individuals may need additional assistance and time considerations. Be ready to be out of the apartment or treatment area for part of the day. No pets or children can be present during the treatment. Fish tanks can be covered and filtration and aeration must be turned off.

JPM's treatment utilizes several methods, strategies and products to control bedbugs. This is called the integrated pest management (IPM) approach, not just relying on pesticides to control bedbugs.

JPM will not provide treatment to any unit or property that has not met the preparations that follow in this instructional document. Please contact JPM for any questions in preparing for your treatment. You can also text us at 260-747-9772

Packing and Furniture Preparation

All furniture should be pulled away from the walls and baseboards at least 2 feet. It is common for items that could potentially provide hiding places for bed bugs, such as book cases and desks, be emptied of their contents and remain empty for treatment.

Items previously stored in sealed containers may remain unopened.

- Remove all items from under the beds, place items in plastic bags and moved to the center of the living room, or dining room or bathtub.
- 2. **Empty closets** of remaining (unlaundered) items and stored items, placing them in plastic bags and moving them to the center of the living room or dining room or bathtub.
- Remove contents from dressers and night stands so that the interiors may be treated. Items should be placed in plastic bags and moved to the center of the living room dining room or bathtub.
- 4. If directed, **remove drapes** from windows and either wash and or dry them in the dryer.
- 5. If requested remove books from shelving and place in totes in the center of the living room, dining room or bathtub, unless told otherwise.
- If requested, remove all pictures, mirrors and hanging items from the bedroom walls so that they may be inspected for treatment.
- 7. Open any sleeper sofas, futons or convertible beds for treatment.



Bags are used to help contain bedbugs inside or prevent them from entering the contents. You are responsible for processing laundry and inspecting the contents to insure bedbugs are eradicated.



Please note: All homes or apartment/condo units that are noted to have excess clutter will NOT be treated. A thorough and successful treatment cannot be achieved while there is excess clutter and untidiness in the home. Once the clutter has been removed, treatment can be rendered.

Laundering

Everything that can be laundered, should be laundered and placed in clean/new plastic bags or plastic containers



and sealed prior to the treatment. The items like drapes, stuffed animals, bed skirts, bedding material. If shoes can tolerate a dryer cycle place them in the dryer for 30 minutes.

- 1. Launder all items (including linens and bedding) according to the manufacturers label, however, whenever possible use the highest allowable heat settings in both the washer and dryer.
- Bags used to transport laundry prior to the washing/ drying cycles should never be reused and should be discarded outside of the property after transportation. All clean items should be placed in new bags, sealed tightly, and remain sealed during the treatment process.
- Items that cannot be washed may be dried in the dryer at a low heat temperature for should be for minimum of 60 minutes. Discard debris collected in the lint trap after each cycle.

Heat Kills Bedbugs! 140° > 30 minutes Dryer Temp 150° Hot Day in your Car 130°

Vacuuming

The mechanical removal of bed bugs by vacuuming thoroughly is an important part of preparing for treatment. The use of a crevice attachment is imperative to access bed bugs hiding inside mattress seams, furniture interiors, baseboards and any place that could accommodate them.

- Vacuum floors, carpets and area rugs Vacuum mattresses including all crevices, handles, or buttons.
- Vacuum the baseboards, bed frame, sofas, futons, recliners and other over-stuffed and upholstered furniture
- 3. Discard all vacuum bags immediately after each use.

Disposal of Furniture

JPM can treat many types of furniture using heat treatments, alongside insecticide treatments. It might be better to have the current furniture treated, or risk infesting new furniture, and needing to have insecticides sprayed on new furniture.

JPM will also install **bedbug encasements** on your mattresses and box springs. This is part of the treatment. Our encasements have a 10 year warranty and can be washed if they become stained or soiled.



If You Decide to Throw Out **Your Furniture**

Deface, or otherwise damage furniture items so they will not be used by others. Mattresses should be slashed or otherwise damaged to make them unusable and should be wrapped in plastic before being removed from the bedroom.

You may need to contact the trash pick up company and make arrangements to pick up your furniture. If you are in an apartment



building, you will have to contact the manager or supervisor to make sure trash will pick up your furniture. There may be a fee associated with infested furniture pick up. Do not assume that furniture left outside will get disposed of properly.

Note: moving beds without completely enclosing the mattress and box spring in plastic may spread the infestation by allowing eggs, bed bug nymphs, and adult bed bugs to drop from the item as it is moved.

Post Treatment

Once the initial treatment has been completed we recommend staying out of the treated home or unit for a minimum of two hours. This allows for an appropriate amount of time for the materials used to dry completely. Only after two hours should you, your children, and/or your pets resume residence in the home or apartment. From this point forward you may carry on with your normal household activities.

Do not use any additional insecticides unless directed by JPM. This could jeopardize the treatment strategy we have chose as well as create a potential odor concern. This will certainly void any warranty. Contact JPM with any follow up or treatment concerns.

We do understand that thorough preparation may present a considerable hardship for some, but we cannot stress enough the importance that it has on the overall effectiveness of treatment. If you should have any questions regarding the content included in this preparation guideline or in the checklist that follows, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We treat bedbugs using several tactics and methods.



www.jacksonpm.com



Heat · Steam · Extraction Exclusion
Encasements Insecticides • Inspections • **Follow-ups and Persistence!** 260-747-9772

We're constantly updating our understanding of bedbugs and how best to control them.



Bed Bug FAQ

Q: What are Bed Bugs?

A: Bed bugs are parasitic insects that feed on the blood of humans.

Q: Where Do Bed Bugs Hide?

A: Because Bed bugs are small and they are able to squeeze into tiny cracks and crevices on the mattress and box spring, behind headboards, and inside furniture. They prefer to live in groups and are often found in clusters where the adults, nymphs and eggs are together in a protected area.

Q: How Did I Get Them?

A: Bed bugs are adept hitchhikers. They travel in luggage, on clothing and inside furniture. They are found in hotels, movie theaters, train cars, airplanes and many other public places where people are at rest for a period of time.

Q: What Do Bed Bug Bites Look Like?

A: Bed bug bites are difficult to distinguish from flea or mosquito bites because (as with all biting insects) not all skin reactions are the same. Bed bugs bite the exposed skin of humans while they are sleeping or at rest, often including the neck, face, arms and hands.

Q: Why Am I Being Bitten and My "Significant Other" Isn't?

A: The anesthetic that a Bed bug uses to numb your skin- -so you won't feel the bite--may or may not cause a visible allergic reaction. This allergic reaction may cause raised, red bumps or blemish-like skin irritation, accompanied by an itching sensation. While some people find that they observe mild to severe discomfort and itchiness, others may observe no discomfort or bite marks at all.



Q: Can I Treat for Bed Bugs Myself?

A: Bed bugs are "maddeningly difficult" to treat, even for our well-trained technicians. You should not attempt to control an infestation with do-it-yourself products, but rather leave the treatment to the professionals.

Q: How Many Treatments Will It Take To Get Rid of Bed Bugs?

A: Typically at least two treatments are needed. This is because bed bugs eggs, which are very small, hard to locate, and may survive treatment, may hatch into tiny bed bug nymphs which are often unaffected by the pesticide residue of the prior treatments. We also want to be persistent in making sure bedbugs are eradicated completely and you can *finally* get some sleep.



Preparation Check List

Reduce clutter and trash around the bed and furniture.
Empty Closet of all clothes, clean and dirty and put them in a garbage bag.
Clear the closet floor of any items, including shoes put them in a garbage bag.
Remove items from underneath the beds.
Remove clothes from dressers clean and dirty and put them in a garbage bag.
Remove items from the top of dressers
Remove all items from nightstand inside and on top.
Remove linens, pillows and mattress covers from the beds, and put them in a garbage bag
Pull some of the furniture away from the walls. Unless otherwise directed
Remove drapes from windows in bedrooms and living room. Unless otherwise directed
Remove picture frames from walls above and around bedroom and living room. Unless otherwise directed
Vacuum all floors as much as possible remove clutter in bedroom and living room.
Place garbage bags full of items in a safe place. Garage, dining room or bathtub.
Remove pets from the area to be treated.
Cover fish tanks and turn off filter and aeration.
Be prepared to be out of the area for the day.