

# Beating Bed Bugs

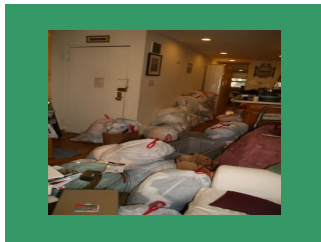
## Tenants preparing their home for treatment

It is very important that you carry out all the preparation below **before** the licensed pest control operator arrives.

If your unit has not been properly prepared by the time the licensed pest control operator arrives, then your unit will not be treated at that time.

### 1. Before the pest control operator arrives

- Do not move anything out of the rooms that needs to be treated, apart for garbage.
- Move all beds, furniture and other items away from the walls.
- Remove head boards and all items from under the bed.
- Remove contents from drawers, closets, and cupboards. Separate them out according to how they will be treated to remove bed bugs. Place in garbage bags and close tightly (not in boxes where bed bugs can hide in the folds).
- Remove all hangings from walls.
- Unplug all non-essential electrical items within the treated rooms.
- Thoroughly vacuum clean the bedrooms and place the waste in two plastic bags in an outside bin. Also, throw out other garbage.
- It is not normally necessary to throw away infested personal belongings. These can often be treated. The pest control operator will advise you on this.



### 2. Immediately before treatment

- Turn off any aquarium pumps and cover the tank.
- Tenants and pets must move to an untreated room. If all rooms are treated, then leave the building for four hours.

### 3. After treatment

- Treated areas may be safely re-entered according to the license pest control operator's instructions.
- Turn on aquarium pumps and other electrical items, once the unit has been aired out.
- Launder all linen and clothing from the treated rooms and then replace in rooms.
- Vacuum clean the treated rooms according to the pest control operator's instructions.
- You should continue to sleep in your bed as normal. If you wish to get a new bed, do not do so until the infestation is completely eradicated. Consider encasing mattress and box spring in hypoallergenic mattress cover at least 0.8mm thick.
- A few new bites may occur for up to two weeks after treatment.

### 4. Subsequent treatments

- More than one treatment is usually necessary for full elimination. The pest control operator will tell you what is required.

### 5. Laundry

- Do not put clothing and linen back into the treated rooms until they have been either:
  - Machine washed at a "Hot" setting, or
  - Tumble dried at a "Hot" setting for 30 minutes, or
  - Placed in a good deep freezer for at least three days, or
  - Dry cleanedLook at the garment labels for laundry advice.
- Laundry bags that have been used to hold clothing, etc. before washing should be placed in a garbage container outside the home.

Contents adopted from *Beating Bedbugs: Preparing your home for bedbug treatment*, Greater London Pest Liaison Group, 2009