Bed Bug Preparation Level 3

All prep work must be completed before your scheduled appointment. Everyone (pets included) MUST be ready to leave when we arrive. We are on a schedule, and it is imperative that we start working as soon as we get there. If you are not ready to leave, you may be rescheduled for a later date. We need as much time as possible to help solve your problem, so help us help you!

Some elderly people should remain out of the home for 24 hours for extra safety precautions. People & healthy pets can return home in 8 hours unless told otherwise.

The work outlined below is what is required for us to provide you with the most effective treatment. Please read and re-read the bed bug prep and post treatment info before calling or emailing us. Most answers to your questions should be within the two documents.

Basics - Don't leave out any pet food, water, or toys on the floor. If you have aquarium pets, please turn off the air pumps and cover the tank with plastic wrap to seal it. Now is your time for spring cleaning, so be sure to wash and vacuum the floors in every room before your treatment. After you're done vacuuming, remove the bag and put it in the trash outside. If you have a canister vacuum, empty it into a trash bag and remove it from the home. Wash out the canister with very hot water. If you remove furniture from the house, wrap it with large plastic wrap before moving it. Plastic wrap can be purchased at places such as hardware stores, moving & storage facilities, Office Max, or Staples.

Kitchen – Basic cleaning before treatment. Make sure the kitchen **sink is empty for both the FIRST and SECOND treatment.** Do not leave food out on the kitchen counter or table. Nothing else needs to be done here.

Bathroom - A general cleaning is needed before treatment. Do not store clothing in bathroom hampers during treatment. Nothing else needs to be done here.

Dining Room - In most cases, no prep work is needed. If you are using this room for anything other than eating, please inform us before your treatment.

Living Room – A good general cleaning before treatment. If you have storage-type furniture in the living room, please let us know prior to scheduling treatment. Typically, there is not much prep work required in this room unless you have confirmed sightings of bugs before treatment. If any additional steps are needed after the first treatment, you will be advised.

Bedrooms - Strip all bedding prior to our arrival the morning of your **FIRST and SECOND treatment.** Bag these items - sheets, blankets, stuffed animals and pillows must be run through a dryer on high heat for at least 30 minutes before returning them to the bed. Do not store anything under your bed. If you have items under your bed now, they will need to be heat-treated with a Zapp Bug Oven or a clothing dryer. If items cannot be exposed to heat you can use the crevice tool attachment with your vacuum. Visually inspect for signs of Bed Bugs and clean anything that can be washed in hot water. Keep any stuffed animals sealed until 30 days after your first treatment.

Clothing & Shoes - Clothing will need to be run in the dryer for 30 minutes on the hottest setting. You don't need to wash clothing if it's already clean. Just use the hot dryer for 30 minutes. Once you have heat-treated clothes, you will need to store them in bags. You can use Ziploc or trash bags. We recommend contractor-type trash bags for long-term clothing storage. Clear type bags or Ziploc bags are best for day-to-day clothing. Clothing needs to remain sealed and protected in bags for 30 days.

Dry-Clean Only - Most dry-clean items can be run through a dryer for 20 minutes without any problems. Shoes can be placed inside a pillowcase and run through a dryer for 30 minutes.

Another great option for shoes or dry-clean only items is a Zapp Bug Oven II. The Zapp Bug is a self-contained heating unit and is great for any questionable items such as shoes, pocketbooks, toys, stuffed animals, books, papers, DVDs, etc. Originally intended for treating luggage after travel, this heating unit will kill all life stages of Bed bugs. This is an excellent investment for the frequent traveler or any items you think may be harboring bugs. Please make sure you read the

directions, as with anything, it does have limitations. The Zapp Bug Oven II can be found on amazon.com.

Mattress Encasements - Beds in every room should be encased with a Bed Bug-proof mattress encasement.

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