



Killum Pest Control Bed Bug Check List

Pre-Treatment Preparation for the rooms that will be treated

To ensure a successful program of Bed Bug eradication, the following measures must be completed by the Customer / Maintenance personnel prior to our company arriving at the location.

1. Place ALL bed linens (blankets, sheets, mattress covers, pillow cases) in sealed plastic bags and launder them in HOT water and HOT dryer cycle.
2. Remove the tacking (fabric cover) from the bases of box spring, sofas, and chairs in treated rooms.
3. Remove drapes / curtains and have them laundered in HOT water, HOT dryer, or dry cleaned. Replace in clean, sealed plastic bag until reinstalling them.

Or

Remove drapes / curtains and place in sealed bags and purchase Nuvan prostrips to be placed in bags included into the service.

4. Empty dressers, closets, and cupboards of all items and place in sealed plastic bags. All fabrics must be laundered in HOT water and HOT dryer cycle where possible. Dry clean those items that cannot be laundered.

a. Once laundered or dry cleaned return to a new plastic bag and seal the bag closed.

Or

Place all items in sealed plastic bags and purchase Nuvan prostrips to be placed in bags and included into the service.

5. Remove and discard all unnecessary boxes, papers, magazines, or other similar items by placing them in a sealed plastic bag for disposal.
6. Remove all items from walls – mirrors, pictures, other items – and leave in the room for inspection
7. Unhook all cables from electronic and electrical devices
8. Move all furniture away from walls
9. Remove all electrical plates on walls – electric outlets, phone jacks, light switch covers, cable outlets.
10. Open carbon monoxide detectors (if present) and remove batteries if possible.
11. Thoroughly vacuum all carpet and fabric-covered furniture, and place contents of vacuum in sealed plastic bag and throw away.
 - a. Vacuum closet shelves and inside drawers of dressers and nightstands.
12. Ensure all rooms adjacent to the infested room are available for inspection and possible treatment.
13. All non-washable items placed in sealed plastic bags must be inspected and/or treated. This may include electronic equipment (computers, clocks, radios, TV's, phones, etc.), artwork in frames, and other objects in infested rooms. Purchase Nuvan prostrips to be placed in bags with service.
14. If you stay in a separate location while the treatment is being done, do NOT take any luggage or clothing with you that have not been treated to kill any bed bugs or their eggs that may be on the items.
15. Show technician where luggage is stored and make all luggages available to the technicians for inspection.
16. Mattresses and box springs will need to be enclosed in high quality encasements that will be available from the pest management company prior to re-use to **receive warranty**.
 - b. The encasements must remain in place until bed bug eradication is complete. Linens are placed over these encasements.

Killum Pest Control will return two weeks following treatment to re-inspect and make sure the bed bug treatment was successful. Localized treatments may be necessary.

Bed Bug Treatment Preparation Checklist

Proper preparation is a mandatory requirement for control to be effective and receive a warranty. A service technician will outline this in detail and provide detailed instructions on what to do. This is generally done by the resident, although in some cases we offer preparation for an additional charge. Preparation involves providing access for pest control treatment as well as taking measures to ensure that bed bugs are destroyed or contained. If a home is not properly prepared, successful elimination is practically impossible. Although preparation may be difficult for some people (for example, seniors or handicapped individuals), it is essential for effective treatment, and thus in such cases family members, friends or social or charitable agencies may be available to provide assistance.

Packing

All furniture and appliances in the rooms to be treated usually need to be pulled away from the baseboards, and it is commonly asked that all furniture containing potential hiding crevices, such as bookshelves and desks, be emptied and left open for the exterminator to treat. Items in tightly sealed containers are usually safe from bedbug infestation and need not be emptied. We may declare an item untreatable upon inspection, especially items of wood or paper.

Laundry

Everything that can be laundered should be laundered, and laundered in advance of the treatment, then placed in plastic bags to ensure they remain free of bed bugs. This would include clothing, bedding, stuffed animals, drapes and so on.

The items should be securely tied within plastic bags, and then emptied directly into the machines. The bags should then immediately be disposed of. It is heat, not water that kills any bed bugs residing within the laundered items. Therefore, items should be washed in hot water, regardless of normal washing directions, and should be dried with high heat for 40 minutes or more. (For those who have the ability to measure the temperature of the water in their washing machine, or of the hot air in their dryer, the target heat range is 120°F (49°C).)

If a laundering session such as described is financially prohibitive, some items need only be run through the dryer, not the washing machine. However, the extensive water and spinning action associated with washing machines may assist in dislodging bedbugs from where they are residing within clothing during laundering. This remains only "optional," as the heat of the cycle of drying will effectively kill all stages—eggs, immature stage (nymphs), and adults.

For items that require dry cleaning, the dry cleaners should be informed that the items in question are potentially infested, and the items should be bagged. Cleaners may still refuse to accept them.

Vacuuming

The mechanical removal of bedbugs by vacuuming is a most important part of preparing for control. Vacuuming alone will not solve the problem, but it will substantially reduce bedbug numbers and thus help reduce the population as part of preparing for treatment. After the treatment a crevice attachment should be used on the seams of mattresses, on box springs, on bed legs, within furniture interiors, behind pictures, on curtains, and anywhere there is a possibility of the insects hiding (e.g. inside dresser drawers, dresser cases, under chairs, etc.). Carpets should also be vacuumed throughout the home, preferably with a powerhead. Baseboards should also be vacuumed using the crevice tool—not swept—prior to the exterminator's arrival. Vacuum bags should then immediately be removed and placed in doubled plastic bags and placed into strong plastic bag for disposal. This vacuuming should be done a few days after the treatment as well.

Managing Bedding

There are differing opinions as to whether it is necessary to dispose of mattress, box springs, futons, pillows, and other bedding. There is of course often a heavy cost involved in the complete replacement of such bedding. Getting rid of infested bedding alone does not solve the problem. The decision to replace bedding or not depends on the condition of, and often related level of, infestation within the items, the comfort level of the owner, whether the owner can afford replacement, and aesthetics. A reasonable rule of thumb is that new bedding does not need to be replaced, but if bedding is older and replacement may have been planned in any case, then of course, replacing it AFTER control is a welcome clean start.

An infested mattress or box spring dragged through the house will cause bedbugs to fall off or even run off the item, and these may then find their way into other parts of the house. As noted here, the use of protective encasements to protect bedding after treatment or to enclose bedbugs when the items are being thrown away is important in preventing spread of infestation. It is also suggested to slash or mark up discarded infested items so that others do not take them.

Placing bedding material inside vinyl, polyvinyl or polyethylene encasement is a good idea. Bedbugs like to hide near the victim and are commonly found on seams of mattresses, or within the structure of box springs. The mattress and box spring encasements serve to reduce this likelihood and in the case of box springs, it permanently seals any remaining insects inside the encasement. An encasement is a good idea either until the infestation has been totally eliminated or, in the case of good quality encasements, useful as a permanent protection for the mattress. It also will enable easier control if infestation recurs.

If electronic items cannot be sprayed, or damage to the electronic components is likely, speak to your technician about the possibility of placing all electronic items into a sealed container for fumigation with an appropriate fumigant strip.