



Bed Bug Tips

Tips for controlling your bed bug infestation:

DO: Wash all of your bedding in hot water & dry in the dryer on the hottest setting for at least 20 minutes.

DO: Wash or dry clean all of your clothing in hot water & dry in a hot dryer for at least 20 minutes. Store the clean clothing in tightly sealed plastic bags.

DO: Eliminate clutter from your home. Store things that you want to keep in tightly covered plastic totes. Completely destroy anything that you throw away.

DO: Use a licensed pest management professional (exterminator)

DO: Follow your exterminator's instructions to prepare your home for treatment

DO: Buy entomologist certified bed bug encasements for your mattresses and box springs.

DO: Wrap any furniture that your exterminator tells you that he cannot treat in plastic before you remove it from your home. Completely destroy anything that you throw away.

DO: Thoroughly vacuum the floor and baseboards in the rooms that have bed bugs. Vacuum often and sprinkle 1/4-1/2 cup talcum powder on the floor of the last section to be vacuumed. Empty the dust cup or throw away the bag outdoors after you've finished.

DO: Limit visitors to your home until the bed bugs are gone.

DO: Check your clothing and shoes before you leave the house. Don't spread the bugs.

DO: Use an anti-itching medicine on the welts to relieve the itching. Over-the-counter creams will work, but prescription anti-itching medicine may be better.

These things will just make your bed bug problem worse:

DO NOT: Ignore the problem. It will only get worse.

DO NOT: Try to treat your home yourself. There is nothing that you can buy that is safe for you to use.

DO NOT: Use fly spray to kill bed bugs. It doesn't work, and it may spread them.

DO NOT: Use farm and garden insecticides or boric acid in the house. They are all highly toxic.

DO NOT: Spray rubbing alcohol in the house. It is extremely flammable.

DO NOT: Throw away your furniture unless your exterminator tells you that he cannot treat it.

DO NOT: Give, sell, or loan clothing, furniture, toys or other belonging to anyone while you have bed bugs.

DO NOT: Scratch the bed bug bites. You may develop a serious skin infection.