

# Preparation for Bed Bug Heat Treatment



Heat treatments effectively eliminate bed bugs at all stages of their life cycle. It is a good choice when results are needed quickly or when a chemical-free solution is desired.

## UNDERSTAND YOUR TREATMENT

- During the heating process, temperatures will range from 120 degrees to 140 degrees. These are lethal temperatures to bed bug populations. Although most things will not be damaged by the high heat, some items will need to be removed or prepared for treatment. See instructions below under “Prepare your home for treatment”.
- You will need to stay out of your residence or facility for 9 to 12 hours.
- Pets, including fish, will also need to be removed for the same period of time.
- When scheduling treatment, let us know if you or anyone else has applied any pesticides to your home in the last 60 days.

## PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR TREATMENT

**Place the following in plastic storage bins by front door so Batzner can inspect the items before removing them from your home:**

- 1. House plants
- 2. Fresh foods (fruits, vegetables, etc.)
- 3. Food that can melt (chocolate, candy, etc.)
- 4. Medications, both prescription and over-the-counter
- 5. Anything made with wax (candles, crayons, wax figurines, wax fruit, dental floss, cosmetics, etc.)
- 6. Anything pressurized (soda bottles and cans, aerosol cans, fire extinguishers, propane bottles, oxygen bottles, etc.)
- 7. Flammables/explosive items (lighters, fireworks, lamp fuel, solvents, bleach, ammonia, etc.)
- 8. Alcohols (wine, liquor, rubbing alcohol, etc.)

- 9. Wooden and stringed musical instruments, but leave the case behind for treatment
- 10. Firearms and ammunition
- 11. Photo negatives
- 12. Taxidermy mounts

*Do not move any items to your basement, garage, storage locker, friend's house, car or any other place from areas to be heat treated that has not been inspected by a bed bug professional. You should assume that anything in the home could be infested with bed bugs. This will cut down on the possibility of bringing bed bugs back into the home on items that were not inspected and heat treated.*

Some small items can be stored in the refrigerator or freezer during treatment. Larger items can be boxed and left inside the door for inspection. We will determine if any of these items can be treated.

Let us know about any family heirlooms and irreplaceable items, and any other items that may be heat sensitive (heat-sensitive fire alarms, sprinkler system, etc.) We will want to inspect these and determine if they should be treated.

## Clean/Maintenance:

- If any pesticide dust is present, clean it up according to the labeled directions before our arrival.
- Leave bed linens and pillows on beds, sofas, recliners, futons, etc.
- Vacuum. Discard vacuum bag immediately into the trash **outside**.
- Remove plastic wrapping from box springs, mattresses, and other furniture. Place in trash bags and throw out in the trash. Box springs and mattresses can be encased with approved bed bug encasements during the heat treatment.
- If you have a waterbed, it will need to be drained prior to treatment. **We cannot perform the treatment if the waterbed is not drained.**

### Other Items:

- Loose papers need to be gathered and placed in open weave laundry basket or a plastic storage bin. Place items stored under/on the bed such as shoes, stuffed animals, toys, books, etc. in open weave laundry baskets and leave in the room to be treated.
- Clothing on hangers may be left in closets if the space between the items is large enough to allow the heated air to circulate. Arrange hanging items to open up air space between them.
- Other clothing left in the heated space must be placed loosely in open weave laundry baskets. Do not place clothing in plastic bags. This would include dirty laundry, clothes, shoes, and slippers that are stored on the floors of sleeping areas.
- Clothing in drawers can be left in place; however, we still may need to remove the drawers from dressers to help with the air movement.
- We will be using high speed fans, so any items that can be blown around and possibly damaged need to be protected, such as items on walls (posters, picture frames), glass items, knick-knacks, breakable items, etc.
- **Wheelchairs and scooters are often infested by bed bugs. They must stay in the home to be treated. Please make arrangements prior to the heat treatment to accommodate your transportation needs.**

### Unplug Electronics:

- Turn off and unplug all electronics. Cover flat screen computers and televisions with a clean towel or blanket. **Do not use linens from a bed, sofa or upholstered furniture to cover TV.**
- Turn off air conditioners and fans, and close all windows before we arrive.
- If you have an airbed (including Select Comfort type airbeds), it must be partially deflated and, if electric, unplugged from the wall outlet.

### RETURNING AFTER TREATMENT

The temperatures will probably be elevated when you return. You should open the windows or turn on the air conditioning to aid in cooling. Some or all of your items may be moved during treatment by our team members to get an even heat distribution. Items will not be refolded and may not be returned to the same spots. The movement of items is necessary to achieve an even temperature in the unit.

### POST HEAT TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Vacuum up any dead bed bugs that may be found after the service. If possible, use a vacuum cleaner with a bag and throw the bag outside in the trash when finished. If using a canister style vacuum, after you are done vacuuming, empty the canister outside in the trash and wash with **HOT** soapy water.
- Wash and dry **on high heat** any dirty laundry and bed linens for 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- Place items (shoes, papers, books, toys, etc.) that will be stored on closet floors, or under or next to beds and sofas, in plastic storage bins with a tight fitting lid.
- It is highly recommended that box springs and mattresses be encased with approved bed bug encasements and interception devices after the heat treatment.
- A canine inspection is available 30 days after the heat service. Please call our office for more information.

It is common to see bed bug activity for up to two (2) weeks after treatment. However, if bed bug activity is noted after two (2) weeks, please contact our main office at **262-797-4160** or **800-878-2110**.

Visit [batzner.com/bed-bugs](http://batzner.com/bed-bugs) for information on habits, prevention, identification and more.

## MATTRESS ENCASEMENT DISCOUNT

### *Protect Against Future Infestations*

Discounts are available on bed bug encasements and installation, if purchased by the date of treatment through Batzner Bed Bug Services. We will install the encasements for you during treatment.