

Homeowner Checklist For Bed Bug Fumigation Preparation

Bed bug management requires a team approach; your pest management professional (PMP), landlord or building manager, tenants and you. The goal is to leave all the bed bugs in the structure to be fumigated. This is only accomplished by everyone cooperating with the PMP program and the checklist below.

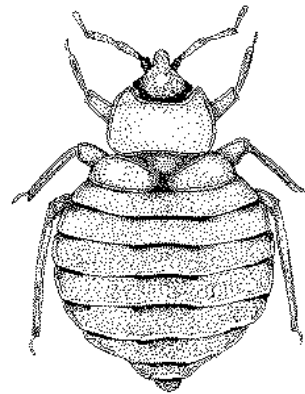
Prior to Fumigation (BEFORE)

- Read and discuss** as a family or group this checklist and any other provided materials for identifying bed bugs and/or signs of bed bugs and contact your PMP immediately with any questions.
- Purchase** clear plastic bags with ties (i.e. Brighton or Webster clear trash bags at office supply stores).
- Decide** what each family member will be taking from the structure on day of fumigation. Remember, take as few items as possible.
- Inspect** each item you want to take with you during the fumigation. Wash and dry (140F/60C) all clothing on the hottest cycle of your machines
- Remove** items from dryer directly into your new, unused, clear plastic bags and tightly tie off. Do not put cleaned items into laundry basket or any other receptacle you may have used to bring items to laundry room.
- Encase** all items being removed from premises during fumigation in your clear plastic bags and tightly tie off each bag. Leave all suitcases, bags, boxes, shopping bags, plastic containers and related items in structure during fumigation.

- Leave** pet cages in structure to be fumigated.
- Leave** all children's toys, blankets, backpacks and related items in structure to be fumigated.
- Discard** any children's plastic mattresses. Plastic mattress bags for moving these items safely are available through storage facilities.
- Contact** you Pest Management Professional with any questions on the above checklist.

What do bed bugs look like?

Adults are small (approximately $\frac{1}{5}$ "), oval and rusty red.



Adult Bed Bug
Illustration by Dr. Stephen A. Klotz.

Scale



$\frac{1}{5}$ "

Continued on back



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(continued from page 1)

Remember the goal after fumigation is to **not reintroduce bed bugs back into the building** after it has been successfully fumigated. This is only accomplished by everyone cooperating with the PMP program and the checklist below.

Post Fumigation (AFTER)

- Inspect** all personal items you have removed from your home as you use them. Alert your PMP if you suspect any bed bugs in your clear plastic bags. Do not open these bags if you suspect a problem.
- Consider** having the automobile you used during fumigation thoroughly vacuumed and cleaned before returning home.
- Be bed bug smart.** Inspect new and used items before bringing them into your home, especially after traveling. Wash and dry clothing on hottest settings brought home after traveling.
- Be proactive** if you reside in multi-unit housing. Discuss with fellow tenants and management, along with your PMP, developing a **Building Bed Bug Action Plan** in prevention and education.
- Contact** your PMP with any questions.

Useful University Websites

University of California IPM Pest Notes

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7454.html>

Texas A&M Urban Pest

<http://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/bedbugs/bedbugs.html>

University of Arizona

<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/docs/BedBugsAdvanced.pdf>

University of Kentucky

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/entfactpdf/ef636.pdf>

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