



Bed Bug Thermal Prep Instructions

Bug Busters Pest Control's Heat Treatment uses Thermal Remediation Equipment (industrial size heaters and fans) to heat rooms in excess of 130-140F. By applying heat evenly throughout a structure, we are able to kill bed bugs wherever they are hiding, something many other treatments cannot achieve in a single treatment. Thermal remediation will kill all of the growth stages of the bed bug including the eggs. This is an important fact given that not all current pesticide control methodologies kill bed bug eggs. This means that oftentimes thermal remediation can eradicate the entire bed bug population in a single treatment.

Preparing for Heat Treatment

At least 4 hours before treatment, turn off the air conditioning. If possible, the heat/furnace should be turned on.

1. Bug Busters will NOT be held liable for damage caused by heat to:

- *Live house plants.*
- *Fresh food (fruits & vegetables).*
- *Wax based cosmetics, candles and heirlooms.*
- *Oxygen cylinders/oxygen generators.*
- *Guns & Ammunition including lamp fuel.*
- *Solvents & cleaning supplies.*
- *Musical Instruments.*
- *Family heirlooms.*
- *If you think something can be damaged, remove it.*
- *Fish in aquariums.*
- *Prescription medications.*
- *Oil Paintings*
- *Vintage wine*
- *Taxidermy Mounts*
- *Plastic mini-blinds.*

PLEASE INSPECT& REMOVE THESE ITEMS FROM THE HEAT ZONE.

The refrigerator can be used as temporary storage for smaller items.

2. Clear door openings of all obstructions. Easy room access is needed. Unit will not be treated if excessive clutter is found by technician.
3. Move all furniture 6-12 inches away from the walls.
4. Ensure all electronics (computers, flat screen TV, etc.) are unplugged.
5. Leave all items (except the items in #1) in place. Do NOT move.
6. Leave clothing and linens loosely packed in drawers. Do not pack anything into plastic bags unless:
 - ✓ You have machine dried on high heat.
 - ✓ The bags are totally sealed: no rips, no open holes.
7. Arrange all hanging clothes loosely in the closet about 1-2 inches apart.
8. Secure all loose paper, high velocity fans are used to move air throughout the unit.
9. Remove all wall-mounted pictures.
10. Make sure all sheets and blankets are removed from bed.

Please refer to the Bug Busters Post-Thermal sheet for additional information.



Bed Bug Post Treatment Instructions

- Do not re-enter your home until 1-2 hours at minimum have passed after a thermal bed bug treatment.
- Keep the bed bug protective covers on your mattress and box springs if you have purchased them from us. New mattresses and box springs should immediately be covered as well.
- Keep thermostat set at least 80+ degrees for at least 6 hours following the treatment.
- Vacuum *thoroughly* at least once a day for two weeks.
- Do not use any over-the-counter products as these may interfere with the materials that your Pest Management Professional has put in place.
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How to Prevent Future Infestations:

When dealing with bed bugs it is important to always keep in mind that they are hitchhikers and can go anywhere! Bed bugs love hotels, cruise ships, dormitories and shelters. Even the nicest, most expensive hotels in the world can (and have) had bed bug infestations. Bed bugs breed quickly and move from place to place through luggage, clothes, shoes and other mobile items. While bed bugs have nothing to do with “sanitation”, they do love clutter to hide in so the more clutter in a space, the more bed bugs.

- If you have purchased mattress and box spring covers from us, keep the bed bug protective covers on your mattress and box spring. New mattresses and box springs should immediately be covered as well.
- Always carefully inspect antiques and any second-hand furniture before bringing them into your home, even if they aren't upholstered.
- Always wash and dry on high heat any second-hand clothing or, when possible, toys and other items before bringing them into your home.
- When traveling, inspect the mattress and box spring you will be sleeping on. In addition to looking for the actual bed bugs, look for small brownish or reddish dots on the bed linens and mattresses. This is why most hotels use white sheets. If the hotels sheets are dark in color, this could be a red flag.
- If you have already had a bed bug infestation and eradication, remember that they came from somewhere. They could have from an adjacent apartment or home, while traveling, or at a friend or relative's house. Don't forget that friends or relatives may have picked up these parasites from your home while you had an infestation, so always be careful not to reintroduce them into your home.
- When traveling, do not put your luggage on the bed because this gives bed bugs a ride right into your home. Use the metal luggage rack which should also be kept away from not only the bed but also the curtains, tables and wall hangings in the rooms. Don't forget to inspect your luggage when you return from trips before you bring them back into your home.
- Have overnight guests to your home check/inspect their bags and luggage as well before placing them in their sleeping quarters.
- Vacuum at least once a week, pay special attention to areas around beds and furniture posts.
- Prevent bed bug harborage (hiding places) by keeping all areas free of excessive storage and clutter.



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Bed Bugs & Heat Treatment

Bed bugs reach epidemic proportions. Dr. Michael Potter, University of Kentucky entomologist, was quoted recently as saying, "Bed bugs are just going ballistic everywhere. It is going to really rock this country." Bed bugs are found today in hotels, apartments, dorm rooms, delivery vehicles, dry cleaners, jails, hospitals, churches, cruise ships, furniture rental stores and private homes. Rare for a time, bed bug bites are becoming all too common. Because pesticides are losing their effectiveness at treating bed bugs, the search is on for new ways to eliminate infestations. Thermal Remediation kills bed bugs without harming the environment; using heat to kill bed bugs and the eggs they leave behind. And, since thermal remediation can be effective in a single bed bug treatment, it can be more cost effective than chemical alternatives which can often require replacement of bedding and even mattresses.

What are Bed Bugs?

Bed bugs are small, oval insects that live in dark spaces close to their food source and feed at night. They range in size from 1/4" to 3/8" long and are mahogany or red-brown in color.

Bed bugs were widespread before World War II in homes, hotels, and boardinghouses, but were greatly reduced with the use of the pesticide DDT. Bed bugs have been

temperatures above the thermal death point and maintaining that temperature for several hours normally eliminates a bed bug infestation.

Heat Eradication Chart

Bed Bugs

Lethal Temperature	Time Duration	
Bed Bug Adults & Nymphs	113° F / 45° C	15 Minutes
Bed Bug Eggs	113° F / 45° C	60 Minutes
Bed Bug All Stages	115° F / 46° C	7 Minutes