

Bedbug Treatment:

Before a Bedbug treatment You Must:

- Vacuum all floors and soft furniture thoroughly to remove any debris, eggs or live insects etc., especially in bedrooms and other areas used by people sleeping. The vacuum bag or contents of the vacuum must be carefully placed inside two plastic bags and sealed before putting the bag in an outside waste bin.
- Hard floor surfaces should be swept and washed or vacuumed.
- Empty wardrobes, drawers etc., and wash the contents on the hottest wash possible.
- NB: Clothes and bedding should be placed inside plastic bags in the rooms where bedbugs are active before being carried to the washing area/laundry so that insects do not fall off on route.
- Strip the beds and wash bedding in the hottest temperature that the fabric will allow (check manufacturers guidelines).
- Alternatively, you should tumble dry all clothing and bedding for at least an hour on high heat.
- Remove all possessions from the floor (books, toys, magazines etc.,) so that as much of the area as possible can be treated. Pull furniture away from walls to allow treatment behind.
- Where possible, beds and other known harbourages should be dismantled to allow them to be thoroughly treated. With Box-beds the fabric covering the underside of the bed should be removed.
- Children and pets should not be present during treatment. Fish tanks should be removed or covered. Any open food should also be covered or removed.
- Whenever possible the only items in a room when treatment commences should be the bed, mattress and empty furniture.
- After treatment keep out of the property until the insecticide has dried. You should expect this to take 2-3 hours.
- You may see some bedbugs for a number of days after treatment. This is due to eggs hatching. The insects will die once they come into contact with the insecticide. Do not vacuum for at least 3 weeks following treatment. The longer you leave the area without vacuuming the greater the chance that treatment will be successful.
- If cracks and crevices are harbouring bedbugs, some minor water staining may occur from a
 water-based insecticide being sprayed into these areas. we cannot be held responsible for
 making good any subsequent damage to painted surfaces or papered walls.

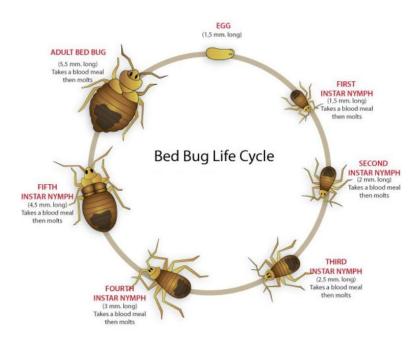


FACT SHEET

Bedbugs

Facts about bedbugs

 Bedbugs are bloodsucking parasites of man and also feed on chickens, bats and domestic animals, but they prefer humans.



- They feed at night or at any time if the room is dark, that is why you will usually find bedbugs in the bedrooms or occasionally in the living areas where people sleep.
- They live in bedclothes, mattresses, bedsprings and frames, soft furnishing, cracks and crevices and under wallpaper.
- A bedbug bite is painless. It is their saliva that can cause irritation, swelling and redness.
- Females lay between 200-500 eggs in batches of 10-50 on rough surfaces such as wood or paper. Eggs are white, sticky and about 1mm long and ½ mm wide (see lifecycle above – egg). They are laid in cracks or crevices, never on people.
- A bedbug's entire life cycle can take between 5 weeks to 4 months, depending upon the temperature and availability of food.

Why do I have bedbugs?

Bedbugs are very easy to transport from person to person, and place to place. They are usually
brought into the home via second hand furniture etc. (always inspect items closely and use the
'recognising a bedbug' description below, they can also be transported from furniture or items
dumped or fly tipped in the street, where any sort of close contact is made (human or animal).

How can you identify a bedbug?

- Mature bedbugs are between 5mm to 7mm long, rusty red/brown to mahogany coloured, oval, wingless insects. Their bodies are flattened, with well-developed antennae and small compound eyes (see lifecycle above – adult).
- After feeding, they become swollen, longer and dark red to dark brown in colour.

Recognising a bed bug problem



Because they are so small, bed bugs are hard to see. They do leave signs that they are present, such as black or brown spots of dried blood, eggs, egg-shells and cast skins on the surfaces where the bugs rest.

Typical resting areas include; under wallpaper behind picture frames, undersides of windows, door casings and loose mouldings. When there are many bedbugs, there is often a bad smell.

What you need to do before we carry out treatment

Cover any fish tanks, keep covered until treatment is dry – most important as we are using a poison in this treatment.

What you need to do after we carry out

treatment

- Keep all pets out of treated rooms where possible for a minimum of 4 to 5 hours most important as we are using a poison in this treatment.
- Wash hands / feet if touched wet / dry treated areas, maintain this routine throughout the treatment period.
- Chemicals are residual up to 3 months depending a level of house cleaning I.e., hovering, dusting and washing of walls, this should be avoided during the 6-week course of the treatment, although cleaning can be carried out on the day before each treatment.
- Avoid cleaning for as long as possible after the final treatment, this will aid treatment process.