

Bed Bug Prevention and Control in Multiple-Unit Apartment Dwellings: Instructions for Tenants before Bed Bug Treatment

Follow these steps to get your unit ready to be treated for bed bugs.

1. Report bed bug or other pest infestations to Management or other responsible personnel right away.
2. Prepare your unit for treatment according to Management and the Pest Management Professional's (PMP) advice.
3. On the day the PMP arrives to treat your unit, remove all bed linens and soiled clothing, place them in plastic bags, and wash them as directed below. Bag all other clutter.
4. Remove linens and soiled clothing from bags only to place them in the washing machine. Reseal and properly throw away used bags to stop any bed bugs from getting out of the bags. Wash all articles in HOT water with the right amount of soap and dry on the HOTTEST setting. Place in new plastic bags right after you take them out of the dryer and seal with a tie. Only open bags to get clean items and tie them up again quickly.
5. Check items carefully for bed bugs, including things that can't be washed or clean clothing that was in drawers. Store them in sealed plastic bags. Don't put bagged items back into drawers since furniture will also be treated.
6. Place all clutter into plastic bags and seal them. Label bags as "trash" and leave them in your unit for treatment before throwing them away. Seal all trash bags and place them in the right trash container after treatment. Avoid clutter and check items closely, like used furniture, since your unit can get re-infested. Bed bugs are hard to get rid of. Effective treatment of occupied units is very hard. Remember, good housekeeping is the best way to prevent and get rid of bed bugs.



Remember, you may get a citation from the local health department if you don't follow these steps.