

# CLIENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR THE CONTROL OF BED BUGS USING HEAT

**CLIENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ROOM NUMBER** (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**PREPARATION COMPLETED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Pre-treatment Preparation by the Homeowner

In order for our company to provide the most effective service possible, we ask that before our arrival you review and complete all the necessary steps listed below. One of our company representatives will verify completion upon arrival. Please complete and return this form to the Abell representative when they arrive on site. Failure to complete the following requests may delay the treatment and potentially void any guarantee if applicable.

### CHECKLIST:

- Please do NOT remove infested materials from the infested area. Except for the items listed below, leave everything in your home. It is important that you DO leave everything in place.
- Be careful of any items you plan on wearing or need to take with you to ensure they are bedbug free such as purses, handbags, backpacks, shoes, briefcases, etc.
- Remove all electrical wall plates, phone jack plates and light switch covers.
- The following objects must be identified and placed in containers near the front door so we can protect them during the heat treatment process:
  - ✓ Oxygen tanks, aerosol cans, lighters, fire extinguishers, ammunition, any other pressurized, flammable or combustible items
  - ✓ Musical instruments including guitars, pianos and violins
  - ✓ Crafts or items put together with hot melt glue
  - ✓ Video tapes, vinyl records, audio tapes, dvds, cds
  - ✓ Candles, crayons, cosmetics, lipstick, wax (can be placed in refrigerator)
  - ✓ Fruits and vegetables, chocolates, wine bottles, liquors, carbonated beverages, artificial sweeteners (can be placed in refrigerator)
  - ✓ Plants, seeds, bulbs
  - ✓ Vitamins, medications, pharmaceuticals, ointments (can be placed in refrigerator)
  - ✓ Oil paintings, pictures, acrylic art work
  - ✓ Remote controls, garage door openers
  - ✓ Items of value that may be damaged by temperatures ranging between 50°C - 65°C (120°F - 150°F)

- Deactivate sprinkler system, heat sensors, smoke alarms for duration of heat treatment as a precaution
- Unplug all electronics such as Television sets, DVD Players and computers
- Turn off all ventilation such as the Heating/Air Conditioning system
- If a water bed or air bed is present, drain or deflate bladders
- The Abell Technician may place bedding and pillows in laundry baskets or hang as part of the heat treatment process. Potentially infested clothing will also be heat treated within laundry baskets and then placed in a pile to be folded and put away by the homeowner. Please leave all laundry in the unit.
- It is necessary for you and your pets to vacate the premises during the service. This process will require approximately 10 hours for completion; a more exact time will be discussed prior to treatment. Fish aquariums may be left on site, however, they should be covered and air filters must be disconnected. As some chemical application will be performed, persons with underlying health conditions should consult their family physician where they have concerns regarding re-entry time.

## Post-treatment actions to be performed by the Homeowner

Once treatment has been completed all items moved during service may be returned to their normal locations. A follow-up service is rarely required when using heat; should bedbugs be detected 1 week after the treatment, please contact us. These accompanying measures should be taken after service:

- Do not tamper with any of the devices left in place such as the box spring and mattress protective encasements. These will protect the mattresses and box springs from becoming re-infested and will prevent bedbugs potentially already within these objects from re-infesting the home. Mattress encasements are available for purchase through your Abell Service Technician and should be installed during or soon after the initial service completed by Abell. Abell will install box spring encasements during or soon after the initial service as part of the treatment program.

## Future prevention against Bedbugs for Homeowners

- When travelling both outside of and within the country be sure to inspect hotel rooms to ensure they are free of bedbugs. Inspect the bed, box spring and mattress, paying close attention to the mattress piping, plastic protective caps for the box spring, and the headboard. When returning home bag and launder all clothing and be sure to inspect suitcases for bedbugs – this stage is preferably done outside or in a garage.
- Do not buy used furniture, electronics or beds unless you can verify their origin and are confident they are free of potential bedbug presence.
- Periodically perform an inspection of your home focussing on the sleeping quarters and inspecting the bed and furniture in close proximity to the bed. Never open the box spring or mattress encasement covers. Bed bugs hide in cracks and crevices and prefer wood and fabric surfaces so they will be found in these areas most often.
- Bedbugs are highly mobile but typically remain close to the host. They are generally only active at night to avoid detection however can be found when inspecting areas where they like to hide.