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# CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

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## Controls for Bedbugs and Preparation Techniques for Application of Pesticides

- Thoroughly clean the infested area to be sprayed. Use only approved pesticides for households. It is best to have these applied by a professional. In most cases, more than one application is necessary approximately 10 days after the initial application, however, some pesticides are good for up to 30 days.
- Thoroughly vacuum the carpet throughout each room as well as the mattress seams. Immediately dispose of the vacuum contents in a sealed bag.
- Dispose of all unnecessary items from the area to be sprayed within a sealed bag to facilitate a thorough application of the pesticide.
- Wash all bedding, draperies and affected clothing if possible, using hot water of at least 120 degree. Dry in a clothes drier on a hot setting.
- In heavy infestations, steam clean carpets when possible.
- Avoid sharing items with other tenants in apartment buildings such as vacuum cleaners, laundry bags, clothing, etc.
- Prior to applying pesticides, remove all bedding, and if possible, stand the mattress and box spring up against the wall for a thorough application of pesticides. Remove all items such as pictures from the wall and pull all furniture and any other items away from the wall.
- When feasible, the mattress, box spring, and infested furniture may be placed outside when temperatures fall to 25 degrees or below. Cold temperature will destroy the insect.
- Do not throw clothing onto the floor. Bedbugs can harbor in carpet or in cracks of hard wood floors and may then can be transported in the clothing to other areas of the home.
- When purchasing used bedding, furniture, suitcases, books, etc, be sure to thoroughly inspect the items for possible infestation. Never purchase or bring questionable items into your home. If disposing of infested furniture, be sure to destroy mattresses, couches, chairs, etc. so that they are not used by anyone else.
- Repair any damaged areas of the home such as cracks in walls, loose wall paper, uplified flooring, etc, as bed bugs can harbor in these areas.