

# Flea Service Preparation Checklist

Preparing for flea treatment in your home is a labor intensive but necessary part of controlling flea infestation. We've put together a checklist with some tips so that you and your home will be fully prepared for our treatment. **Please feel free to download and save the attached PDF and print it for your own use.** Please note that the following apply to all areas of your property for which you are requesting treatment, whether it is inside the home or your outside exterior.



- Wash all pet bedding in hot water or destroy it. Tell your pest control technician all of the locations in and outside your home where pets normally rest.
- Vacuum all carpeting and mop wood and tile floors, including along the walls and inside closets.
- Clean or vacuum furniture, especially between and under cushions, and under the furniture itself.
- Close the vacuum cleaner bag tightly and dispose of it in a trash container outside your home. If using a vacuum with a re-usable canister, take it outside your home and empty contents into a container, close it tightly, and discard. Wash the reusable canister in hot water.
- Remove all pets and have them treated for fleas by a veterinarian. If you plan to treat the animal yourself, it is essential that all label directions be followed and that you use only products specified for the species of animal on which the product is to be used. It is critical, however, that pets be treated at the same time as the home, so that neither re-infest the other afterward.
- Cover fish tanks with wet towels and turn off pumps until reoccupying the home.
- Pick up all pet food bowls, pet toys, children's toys and other items off floor as well as the yard if the exterior is being treated. This includes picking up items from floors inside closets and under beds and inside kennels and outdoor pet houses.
- Strip all bed linens for any beds where the pets rest or lounge, and wash in hot water.
- Cover and store any open food products, dishes or utensils before service is rendered.
- Remove all caged pets from your home (birds, reptiles, hamsters, etc.) before service is rendered and until the waiting period described below has elapsed.
- Be prepared to leave your home or apartment during treatment and until insecticide is thoroughly dried. This will be approximately 4 hours.

## The following items also need to be done after the treatment to increase the success of your treatment.

Plan on your family and pets vacating your home for 4 hours after treatment. Keep children and pets off treated areas until the treatment has dried; this will take approximately 4-5 hours, sometimes less.

Ventilate your home prior to re-occupying.

Vacuum lightly for 14 days. Ordinary vacuums cannot pick up the chemicals we use but can pick up adult fleas still hopping around. Fleas can re-infest your home from the vacuum cleaner. A small amount of flea powder (1 teaspoon or less) can be vacuumed directly into the vacuum cleaner to kill the fleas that may have been vacuumed up. Continuing to vacuum will get the fleas through their life cycle more quickly, resulting in better service effectiveness.

- **A note about vacuuming:** Vacuuming the carpet can help to remove the eggs that drop there from fleas on the pet. Vacuuming will remove a few larvae as well as the debris that the larvae eat. Vacuuming will also cause the adult fleas to come out of their cocoons while the carpet treatment is fresh and effective. It is normal to see fleas for a couple of weeks after the treatment. Make sure you remove and discard the bag from the vacuum cleaner in the manner described above every time you do this, discarding the bag outside the home.

If your exterior was treated, also make sure you keep your lawn cut short.

**Do allow 21 days for the treatment to reach its maximum effectiveness.** There can be any number of fleas going through various stages of their life cycle at any given time. If there is a problem after 21 days, please give our office a call & we'll be happy to help.

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