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Laundry Preparation Checklist for Bed Bugs

Pesticides, alone, will not eliminate a bed bug infestation. Inspecting and cleaning the living area and all personal belongings are critical for bed bug control and elimination. Cleaning should occur before pesticides are used. Follow all the recommended steps as they apply to the individual situation.

- ✓ Seal all clothing and linens in large clear plastic bags. Clear bags are good because bed bugs can be seen inside them. If clean then they can be run through a hot dryer for 30 minutes. If dirty then launder as usual. Do not over stuff the dryer, heat must reach all items. Return all items to clear plastic bags.
- ✓ All pillows, shoes, coats, and children's plush toys should be treated by placing them into a HOT dryer for 30 minutes. Do not over stuff the dryer, heat must reach all items. Once complete return items to clear plastic bags. If items can not be placed in the dryer (purses, luggage, backpacks) please encase them in plastic bags.
- ✓ Personal belongings should be inspected carefully, cleaned, and sealed in plastic bags or in bins. Do not use cardboard boxes, bed bugs can hide in folds and will deposit eggs there. Reduce clutter as much as possible.