



**WATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**PEST CONTROL TREATMENT**  
**FOR BEDBUGS**



*cimex lectularius*

Thank you for booking a treatment for bedbugs with Watford Borough Council.

**Before the treatment**

To help us make sure that the treatment is as effective as possible, we would be grateful if you would take steps to prepare the rooms to be treated as follows:

In bedrooms:

1. Strip the linen from any beds. The linen needs to be washed.
2. Remove any 'Divan' drawers that may be present and empty them. The drawers need to be treated as well so do not simply take them in another room.
3. Remove any loose clothing that is in the room. These clothes need to be washed.
4. Empty any suitcases that contain clothes. These clothes need to be washed.
5. Make sure that there is nothing under any beds.
6. Remove the headboards from any beds.
7. Make sure that any furniture is moved away from the walls.
8. Make sure that floor is vacuumed before the Animal Control Officer arrives as this increases the efficiency of the insecticide to be used.

In any other rooms that need to be treated, such as sitting rooms:

1. Remove any cushions and cushion covers from sofas and armchairs.
2. Make sure there is nothing underneath any sofas or armchairs.
3. Make sure that any furniture is moved away from the walls.
4. Make sure that floor is vacuumed before the Animal Control Officer arrives as this increases the efficiency of the insecticide to be used.

**Important Note:**

**If it appears to the Animal Control Officers that the rooms to be treated have not been prepared, then they may decline to carry out the treatment.**

### **After the treatment**

1. Avoid all contact by mouth.
2. In case of skin contamination wash immediately with soap and water.
3. Keep children, pets and other animals away from treated areas until surfaces are dry.
4. Do not handle treated fabrics until dry and air thoroughly before use.
5. Ventilate any rooms where treatment has been carried out.
6. Do not vacuum the edges of the rooms where treatment has been carried out for at least 14 days.

### **Important Note:**

Any bedbugs will not be eradicated immediately after the treatment as they live in cracks and crevices, and also in the folds and stitching of fabric and furniture.

In addition, it is essential that people sleep / live in any treated rooms as this will encourage the bedbugs to come out of their hiding places and feed. When they do this they will come into contact with the insecticide.

### **Revisits**

It can take some time for this pesticide to work, as it will not deal with any bedbug eggs that have been laid. However, because it contains an active ingredient that remains effective for at least a month, when any hatchlings are born, they are exposed to pesticide.

We can not guarantee a one-off treatment will be sufficient, but should you notice continued insect activity a month after the date of treatment, please contact us.

**For further information on bedbug treatments, please contact Watford Council on 01923 226400**