

Bed Bug MATTRESS ENCASEMENTS

Mattress encasements are a safe, affordable and effective way to help protect you and your bed from bed bugs. Mattresses should not be thrown away because of bed bugs – using mattress encasements are more effective at fighting bed bugs than buying a new mattress.



What are Mattress Encasements?

Mattress and box spring encasements are mattress covers that totally enclose your mattress, preventing new bed bugs from getting inside the mattress or box spring.

- Bed bugs are unable to get through the encasement.
- Any bed bugs already in the mattress or box spring are trapped inside and cannot get out.
- Encasements do not have piping or folds where bed bugs can hide. This makes it easy for you to detect new bed bugs that may find your bed in the future. Your mattress has a clean fresh look.
- Unlike a new mattress with many places to hide, your existing mattress covered with an encasement is easy to inspect and clean.

Choosing a Mattress Encasement

Buy only mattress encasements that say Bed Bugs on the label. Features to look for when purchasing a mattress encasement include:

- The encasement is made from a breathable fabric or vinyl. A fabric encasement will be more comfortable than a vinyl cover that does not breath, and less likely to tear when installing it.
- The zipper can be sealed closed, preventing bed bugs from escaping the mattress at the end of the zipper.

Mattress encasements are available from home stores and department stores that sell bedding.

Installing a Mattress Encasement

Follow the installation instructions that come with the mattress encasement.

- Extra care should be taken when installing the encasement and putting the mattress or box spring back onto the bed frame. Be careful of corners of box springs, sharp edges or bolts on the bed frame that can tear a mattress encasement. Any hole will let bed bugs in or out of the encasement.
- Once installed, the encasement should NOT be removed. If your encasement gets a rip or tear, do not remove it. Put another encasement over top.
- Consider the encasement as the new surface of your mattress or box spring. Fitted sheets or mattress pads that can be laundered can be used to protect the encasements from staining.

Make Your Bed an Island

Take these simple precautions to protect your bed from new bed bugs:

- Move your bed at least 6 inches (15 cm) from the wall.
- Wash, vacuum and steam your bed frame to be sure no bugs or eggs remain. If you don't have a bed frame, buy one so that the mattress is not on the floor.
- Put bed bug interceptor traps or glue traps on the legs of your bed to prevent bugs from crawling up.
- Don't let bed skirts, sheets or blankets touch the floor or walls.

Mattress encasements are more effective at fighting bed bugs than getting a new mattress.



Protect your bed from bed bugs and get the good night sleep that you deserve.

Produced in co-operation with



For more information on bed bugs, visit www.hamilton.ca/bedbugs