

Disclaimer

This is a list of suggested questions home occupants and business owners should consider asking pest management when securing bed bug pest control services. Information contained in this document is based on sample questions and responses. When contacting an actual pest management operator, responses may vary. It is recommended that when such services are being sought, that three or more services be contacted for comparison. This document addresses chemical treatment. Please be aware that besides the chemical treatments, there are also many other bed bug treatment methods available.

For More Information

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To download bed bug brochure or to view the bed bug presentation visit:

<http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/health/pages/-5092-/>

**For comments,
questions, or
requests,
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**Noble Maseru PhD, MPH
Commissioner of Health
Cincinnati Health
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***QUESTIONS TO ASK A
PEST MANAGEMENT
OPERATOR
FOR
BED BUG TREATMENT***



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DEPARTMENT
TECHNICAL DIVISION
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION
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Questions to Ask a Pest Management Professional

<i>Suggested Questions</i>	<i>Possible Responses</i>
Have you ever performed Bed Bug treatments?	Yes — <i>(Experience in treating for bed bugs is important.)</i>
For how long?	<i>We have been treating homes and apartments for over a year.</i>
Do you have references or recommendations? If so, who are they?	<i>Yes and my references are (The Pest Management Company should have references)</i>
Do you have an Ohio Department of Agriculture License? Can you show it?	<i>Yes. It is current and validated by ODA. I have insurance also. (License information can be verified by calling: 1-800-282-1955 ext. 31 or by checking online at: www.agri.ohio.gov).</i>
How do you treat for Bed Bugs?	<i>We do a thorough inspection first and then treat. We treat the bed with approved materials and use dusts along baseboards or in outlets. We then go into the living room to treat the couches and all cracks and crevices. (Employee must be able to explain some type of treatment program that they have).</i>
Do you use steam for Bed Bug treatment?	<i>This is not technically necessary, but steam is a very effective non-chemical initial treatment that kills bed bugs and their eggs.</i>
What type of chemicals do you use for treatment?	<i>Some chemicals labelled to treat bed bugs are: Suspend SC, Bedlam, Phantom, Sterifab, IGR's (Gentrol), Delta Dust, and D.E.</i>
Do you rotate chemicals? Why, if yes?	<i>Chemicals should be rotated to prevent development of resistance.</i>
How many treatments does it take to get rid of Bed Bugs?	<i>It is very unlikely that one treatment will effectively rid the premises of Bed Bugs. It may take three or four treatments or even more depending on the severity of the infestation. The number of treatments may also vary depending upon the likelihood of the home becoming re-infested.</i>
How often do you treat for Bed Bugs?	<i>We treat weekly or bi-weekly until the infestation is eliminated. (Any longer than two weeks between treatments is too long to control an infestation.)</i>
What area of a house do you treat for Bed Bugs?	<i>We treat any area that has a potential to be infested by Bed Bugs; this may include bedrooms, living rooms, kitchens, basements with laundry rooms, bathrooms, dining rooms, furniture etc.</i>
If I see Bed Bugs, do I have to get rid of my furniture?	<i>As long as infested furniture is in good shape (no rips, tears, etc.), it is advisable to treat it first. If a piece of furniture is still infested after several treatments, it may need to be discarded.</i>
What do I need to do in order to get ready for extermination?	<i>We will tell you what you need to do, based on an initial assessment.</i>
How much will I spend for treatment? Can you give me an estimate?	<i>Some companies charge for the detailed initial inspections, while others may not. The first treatment may run from \$200 - \$500, but may vary based on the severity of the infestation. The price for follow-up treatments may also vary.</i>
Do you exterminate all rooms in a residence or business?	<i>It depends on the extent of the infestation. If only a few Bed Bugs are found in a room, only that room may need to be treated. The earlier an infestation is found and treated, the easier it is to rid the premise of the Bed Bugs.</i>
Do you treat apartments next to one that is infested?	<i>It may be advisable to at least inspect, and maybe treat apartments on either side and above and below since the infestation may have started from an adjacent apartment. But due to lack of landlord or tenant cooperation, gaining entrance to the adjacent apartments may not be possible.</i>