

Day-care centre's bedbug guidelines

Bedbugs are not particularly contagious, and they do not live on humans. They move slowly and mainly at night. In some cases, they can be transported into or out of the home on clothes, bags, furniture, etc.

Measures in day care if bedbugs are detected:

- The day-care centre must be in contact with the property owner or property manager.
- The day-care centre furniture is vacuumed or shaken (textiles) in the air outside. If shaking in outdoor areas is not possible, it can be done, for example, in shower rooms (spray the room with water after the shaking). Floor surfaces, corners and floor skirtings are vacuumed in case of bugs that have fallen on the floor. The dust bag is disposed of immediately after cleaning in a closed plastic bag, for example.
- In accordance with the Health Protection Act, the owner of the property is obliged to take appropriate prevention measures. If appropriate prevention measures are not taken, the health protection authority should be contacted (Health Protection Act 763/1994, Section 31).
- Detected bedbug infestations must be reacted to quickly. In general, it is worth resorting to the help of a professional pest controller because bedbug nests can be difficult to get rid of.
- The day-care centre's staff informs their customers about bedbugs and other pest findings (lice, roundworms). It is advised to get rid of bedbugs according to the guidelines. The responsibility for exterminating bedbugs in apartments lies primarily with the owner of the property. If necessary, the owner of the property must take appropriate measures to combat bedbugs.
- If necessary, the customer/guardian of the child with whom the bedbugs are assumed to have been brought to the day-care centre shall be informed separately about the infestation.
- Customers/guardians of children who may have bedbugs at home are served as close to the entrance hall as possible and are not allowed into other premises.

Info

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- Before moving to other premises, all the child's clothes are changed into spare clothes of the day-care centre near the entrance hall, and the child's own clothes are sent home in a well-sealed plastic bag to be cleaned.

It is good to have a plan ready to combat bedbugs in the day-care centre, taking the following into account:

- A responsible person will be appointed at the day-care centre, who will check the children's day rest sheets if bedbugs are suspected. Live bugs and small dark-brown spots (bedbug excrement) on the sheet or under the mattress are signs of a bedbug infestation.
- Soft, poorly cleanable furniture or other supplies must not be brought to day-care centres from recycling centres or flea markets.

Ways to get rid of bedbugs:

- In the washing machine with a 60 °C washing program.
- In the sauna at 55 °C for 10 h. First, heat up the sauna to over 55 °C and then put the infested suitcase, etc., on the top bench. Open the suitcase only after a few hours and let it be in the sauna for at least 10 hours at 55 °C. (note: remember fire safety!)
- Out in the frost/freezer at -18 °C for 2 h

More information:

Espoo region environmental health care services

terveydensuojelu@espoo.fi

Housing Health's customer service telephone on Mon and Wed at 9:00–11:00,
tel. 043 8266263