

HOW TO CHOOSE AN EXTERMINATOR

BEDBUGS

Anyone can have a bedbug infestation in their home. Don't be embarrassed.

If you are a tenant, notify your landlord as soon as possible. The faster you act, the easier you will solve the bedbug problem.

Property owners are responsible for hiring an exterminator to get rid of a bedbug infestation in their rental apartments or buildings.

HELPFUL TIPS

Here are a few tips to help property owners hire a competent exterminating firm:

- Seek references from friends or neighbours.
- Find out if the exterminator holds a permit issued by Québec ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MDDELCC), and that the technicians are certified by the MDDELCC.
- Shop around before hiring an exterminator.
 - Method: at least two treatments are required to get rid of bedbugs. Insecticides do not kill the eggs of the bedbugs.
 - Products: insecticides used to kill bedbugs must be approved¹ by Health Canada.
 - Cost: the lowest estimate does not ensure the best available service.

- Agree on an action plan and a price.
- Find out about the warranty terms and conditions.
- Make sure the business carries liability insurance.

GOOD PRACTICES

A qualified and competent exterminator should:

- Inspect the dwelling before giving an estimate or starting a treatment.
- Submit a written inspection report with an action plan, a list of services provided and instructions on how to prepare the dwelling for the treatment.
- Avoid needlessly using insecticides. Hot steam can be used on mattresses;
- Inform occupants of how long they will need to vacate their home after the treatment.
- Work with the property owner until the bedbugs have been exterminated.
- Give advice on how to prevent bedbug infestations.
- Treat clients with respect.

For more information : avoidbedbugs.info

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¹For Health Canada's list of certified products : <http://pr-rp.hc-sc.gc.ca/l5-re/index-eng.php>