Durham Region: (905) 718-2503

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### Flea Treatment Preparation Checklist

Proper preparation is essential to help ensure an effective flea treatment. By following these steps before your pest control appointment, you'll set the stage for the quickest and most thorough results.

### 1. Pet Care

- Treat all pets for fleas using veterinarian-approved products (topical, oral, or flea collars). Continue any follow-up treatments as directed by your vet.
- Wash or replace pet bedding in hot water and detergent. Dry on the highest heat setting the fabric allows.
- Keep pets off the floor once you've vacuumed and cleaned, and relocate them (if possible) during the treatment process to prevent re-infestation.

# 2. Laundering and Bedding

- Strip all beds (including blankets, sheets, and pillowcases) and wash them in hot water.
- Dry all bedding on the highest heat setting to kill any fleas or eggs.
- **Bag and seal** freshly laundered items in clean plastic bags or containers until after treatment to prevent re-infestation.

# 3. Vacuuming and Cleaning

- **Thoroughly vacuum** all floors (carpets, rugs, hardwood, tile), paying close attention to corners, edges, under furniture, and pet resting areas.
- Vacuum upholstered furniture, especially in cracks, crevices, and beneath cushions.
- Empty the vacuum canister or discard the vacuum bag into a sealed plastic bag immediately, and dispose of it outside in a trash receptacle.
- Clean pet feeding areas and remove uneaten food. Fleas can sometimes hide around food bowls and moist areas.

#### 4. Clutter and Furniture

- **Declutter floors** and clear away toys, shoes, and other small objects that might obstruct the treatment process.
- **Move furniture** away from walls if possible to allow access to baseboards and hidden flea harborage areas.
- **Store loose items** (e.g., clothing, children's toys) in sealed bags or containers to reduce potential hiding places for fleas.

#### 5. Outdoor Areas

- Mow lawns and trim shrubs to reduce shady, moist areas where fleas thrive.
- Remove yard debris like piles of leaves, grass clippings, or woodpiles that can harbor fleas.
- **Keep pets out of treated outdoor areas** until the product has dried or for the period specified by your pest control provider.

## 6. During & After Treatment

- Vacate the premises for the time recommended by your pest control technician (often a few hours) to allow products to dry and settle.
- **Keep pets and children away** from treated surfaces until re-entry is advised.
- Expect to vacuum daily for at least 1–2 weeks after treatment to eliminate newly hatched fleas. The residual effects of the treatment, combined with frequent vacuuming, will help break the flea life cycle.
- **Monitor activity** after treatment. You may see some fleas for a short period as eggs hatch, but their numbers should steadily decline.

By completing these steps before and after your pest control appointment, you'll help ensure the most effective flea elimination possible. If you have any questions about preparation or the treatment process, please contact us. Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to helping you achieve a flea-free home!