



## Home Cleaning Guide

When a case of head lice is confirmed in a family, the first step is to find an effective treatment to eradicate the lice and prevent it from spreading.

Once treatment begins, the next important step is home cleanup. Remember that lice live on the head, not in the home, so there is no need to have your home deep cleaned. Lice can only live off the human head for 24-48 hours. Chemical sprays do not affect lice and can be harmful.

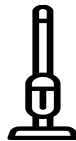


### Laundry

Items **do not** need to be washed as water has no affect on lice. Linens and clothing only need to be put in dryer for 30-40 minutes on high heat. (Make priority piles.)

- Special stuffed animals, blankets, or other cloth items they sleep with
- Bed linens, pillows, comforters, blankets, pillow shams
- Backpacks, jackets, scarves
- Any clothes worn or towels used in the last 48 hours

\*Anything that cannot withstand the hot dryer cycle or be vacuumed should be bagged for 48 hours.



### Vacuum

Vacuum common areas:

- Carpets, rugs, cloth sofas and chairs (use damp cloth for leather)
- Cloth car seats & safety seats (or use a lint roller)
- Any large pillows that can't go in the dryer
- Lice have claws, not sticky feet and don't get around very easily. They crawl quickly, but cannot travel long distances and cannot crawl on hard surfaces.



### Freeze

Water does not affect lice so there is no need to boil or clean anything with water. Instead, anything that can be put in the freezer should be in a baggie and kept there for 2 days.

- Hair brushes, ties, scrunches
- Helmets, hats