

• *Dunphy's ExtermaPest, Inc.* •

German Cockroach Cleanout — Residential Customer Preparation & Aftercare

Preparation is just as important as the treatment itself when it comes to eliminating German cockroaches. Even the best pesticides won't work effectively if the environment isn't ready for them. Proper preparation ensures that our licensed exterminators can target all harborage areas, prevents interference with the treatment, and maximizes residual effectiveness.

The day before service, focus on giving us clear access to every area where roaches may hide. This includes pulling lightweight furniture and stored items away from walls, clearing and degreasing surfaces, and making sure floors—especially edges and corners—are vacuumed. In the kitchen and bathrooms, degreasing is critical. Residual oils and buildup act like shields for roaches, making treatments far less effective.

Staging food, utensils, and dishes on a table under plastic sheeting is essential. It protects your items from overspray while keeping them accessible for your use later. All personal-care items from bathrooms should be sealed to prevent contamination. Pets and aquariums require special care—if tanks can't be moved, they must be sealed airtight to protect aquatic life.

After treatment, patience is key. It's normal to see some roaches for several days as they emerge from hiding to encounter the treatment. Avoid using store-bought sprays; these can interfere with the baits and residual pesticides we apply. Stay off treated surfaces for at least four hours, ventilate upon re-entry, and clean only with the "spray the rag, not the surface" method to protect treated zones.

By following this process, you ensure the treatment works at its highest potential, giving you faster, longer-lasting relief.

Residential Preparation & Aftercare Checklist

Preparation

- ☐ Pick up floors and pull items 12–18" from walls for access (clothes, toys, shoes, light furniture).
- ☐ Remove household trash; wash out trash cans.
- ☐ Vacuum floors, especially edges/baseboards.
- ☐ Empty and wipe clean all kitchen cabinets, drawers, and counters.
- ☐ Degrease/wash walls and floors in kitchen and bathrooms (backsplash, stove sides, kickplates).
- ☐ Place dishes/utensils on dining table and cover with plastic sheeting.
- ☐ Pack unsealed food into sealable bags or airtight containers; stage on table and cover.
- ☐ Empty and wipe bathroom cabinets/drawers.
- ☐ Bag and seal personal-use bathroom items (toothbrushes, makeup, razors, toilet paper).
- ☐ Remove pets; seal fish tanks airtight if they cannot be moved.
- ☐ Ensure access if you will not be home.

Aftercare

- After service: Stay off treated floors/upholstered furniture for 4 hours.
- Ventilate by opening windows/doors upon re-entry.
- Do not spray cleaners directly on treated surfaces; spray rag, then wipe.
- Expect roach activity for 7–14 days; do not use store-bought sprays.
- Plants are safe; treatments are EPA-registered and safe when dry.