



NATIONAL HEALTHY HOMES
TRAINING CENTER™
& NETWORK



Healthy Housing
Solutions^{Inc.}

LIMITED RESIDENT PREP FOR BED BUG TREATMENT



*Funding for this course provided by the U.S. Department of
Housing & Urban Development*

SECTION 1: What are your views?



POLLS



HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR A RESIDENT TO PREPARE THEIR APARTMENT PRIOR TO A BED BUG TREATMENT?

POLL

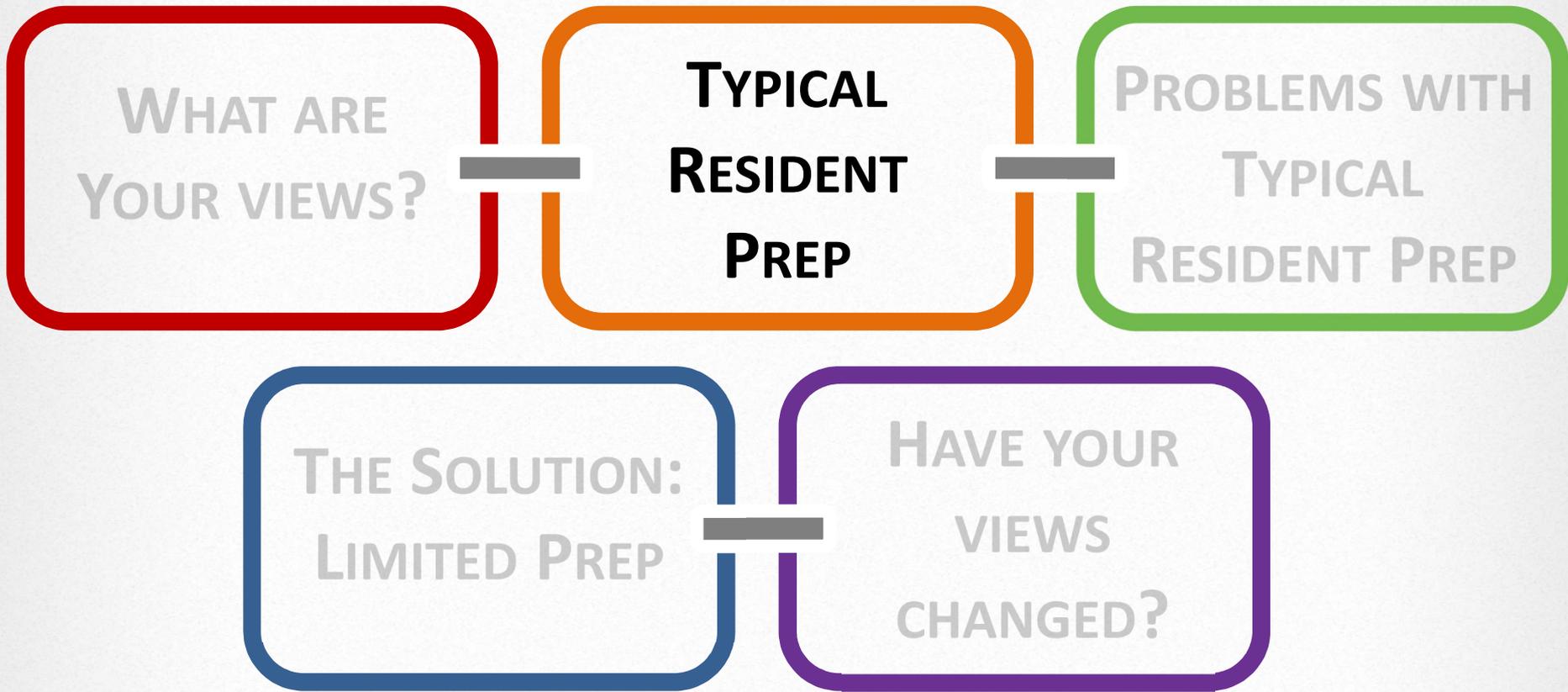


ARE ALL YOUR RESIDENTS WITH BED BUGS REQUIRED TO DO THE SAME PREP PRIOR TO TREATMENT?

POLL



SECTION 2: Typical Resident Prep



Typical client prep list

HOW TO PREPARE FOR A BED BUG TREATMENT

Complete these steps on the extermination day, all at once, all in one day

1. **Collect all fabric items and place in plastic bags**, Collect and remove **ALL** washable fabric items (pillows, sheets, blankets, clothing, rugs, curtains, towels) from **ALL** rooms (closets, bedrooms, living rooms, bathrooms, and kitchen). Place into trash bags and seal.
2. **REMOVE** all of the bags from your home.
3. **WASH & DRY on HOT, then seal them in bags.** Wash **ALL** items in **HOT** water in washing machine. Seal and throw away the empty trash bags. Dry **ALL** items on the highest heat setting in a dryer. Place the clean items in **NEW, UNUSED PLASTIC BAGS AND TIE CLOSED. DO NOT BRING CLEAN BAGS OF CLEAN LAUNDRY INTO THE HOME UNTIL AFTER THE EXTERMINATION.**
4. **REMOVE ALL CLUTTER, BOXES, BAGS, ETC. VACUUM ALL SURFACES WITH A STRONG SUCTION VACUUM** (All furniture, mattresses, floors, walls, crevices, heating units, baseboards, picture frames etc).



Other Common Preps



Empty, launder
and bag.



Strip and
stand on end.



Loosen carpet
from tack strip
around perimeter
of rooms.

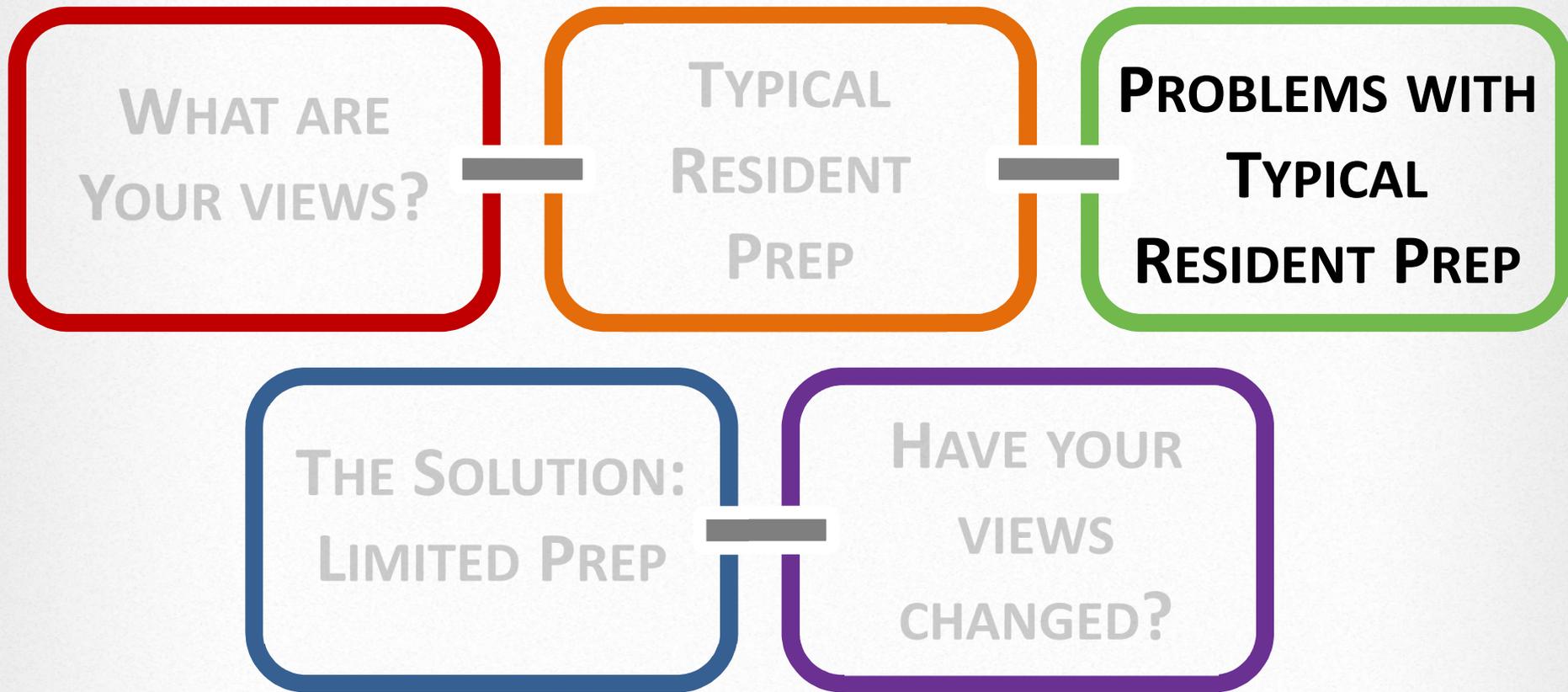


Remove and
launder.



Remove all items
from walls.

SECTION 3: Problems With Typical Resident Prep



Reality Check #1

Are the typical preparation requirements for residents realistic and are they justified?



Take the Mirror Test



Look in the mirror
and ask yourself:

“Could I do what we are
asking residents to do?”



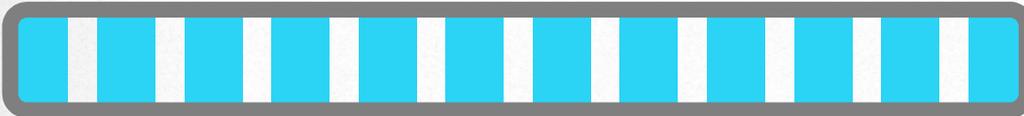
TIME ADDS UP

Collect pillows, sheets, blankets, clothing, rugs, curtains and towels from all rooms. Place into trash bags and seal.



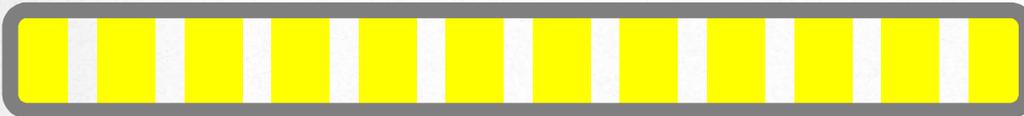
Est. one hour

Wash and dry all items in the trash bags. Place in new bags and seal.



Est. eight hours

Remove all clutter, boxes, bags, etc. from home. Vacuum all furniture, mattresses, floors, walls, crevices, heating units, baseboards, picture frames, etc.



Est. three hours

Twelve hours for these three tasks. How much more time for other tasks?

Quote associated with preparation lists

“Be ready for some very serious, exhausting, detailed, hard work! Get a friend or friends to help you, if possible, because the amount of preparation can sometimes be mind-boggling. Do it right the first time; do the necessary hard work. You can’t skimp when it comes to preparing for bed bug treatment.”

Source: Pest management company website



Mentally / physically disabled and elderly residents suffer the highest infestation rates



Insufficient prep = no service

“We understand that appropriate preparation can be difficult to achieve in a short period of time and that senior citizens or handicapped individuals may need additional assistance and time considerations.

Please note: we will not provide treatment to any unit or property that has not met the preparations...”

Source: Pest management company website

This is not ok, nor does it help!

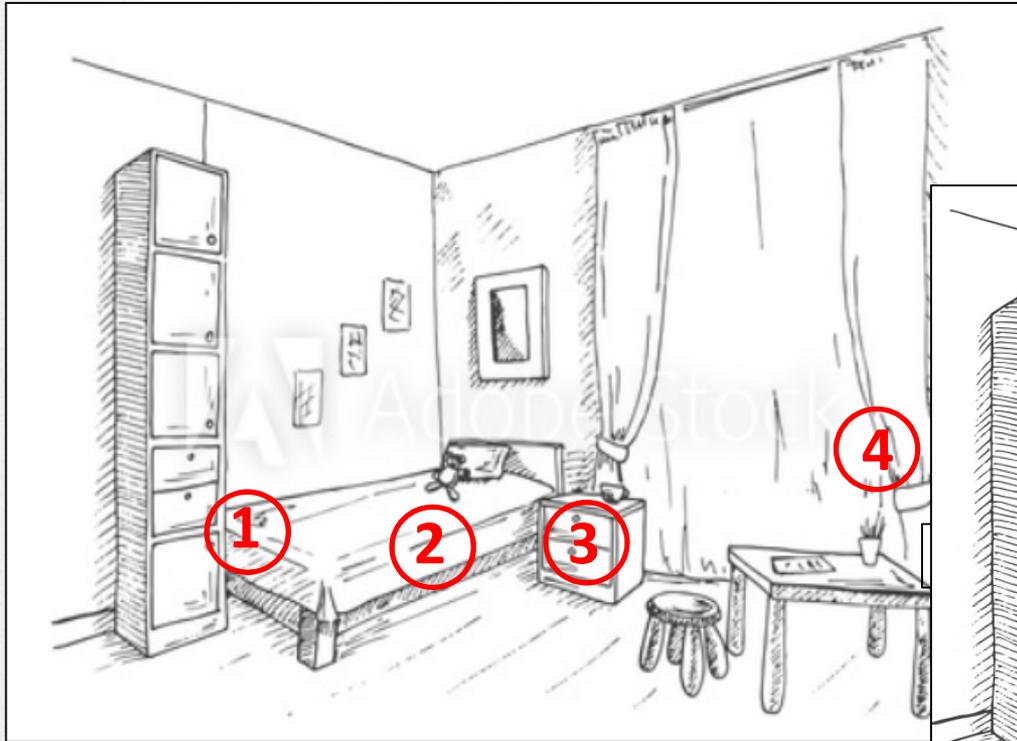


How might “insufficient prep = no service” impact the effort to eliminate an infestation?

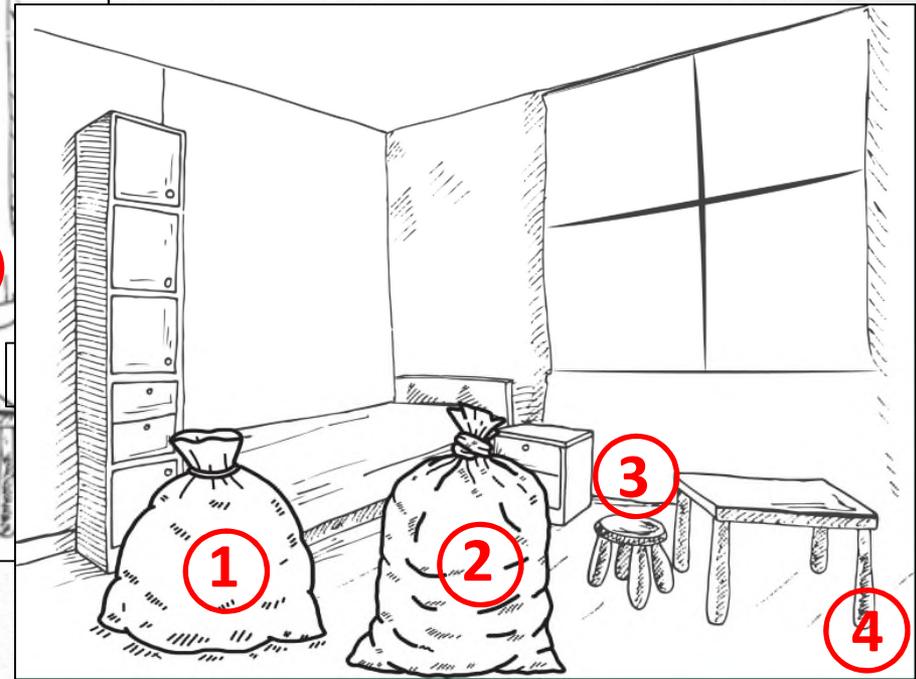


Extensive Prep Can Cause Problems

*An infestation BEFORE
extensive resident prep*



*An infestation AFTER
extensive resident prep
(but before treatment)*



Why do you think some
locations have changed?

1, 2 . . . Location of bed bugs

Do We Really Want Residents Stripping and Moving These Beds?



*Pictures courtesy of
Bed Bug Central*



How Does This Help?



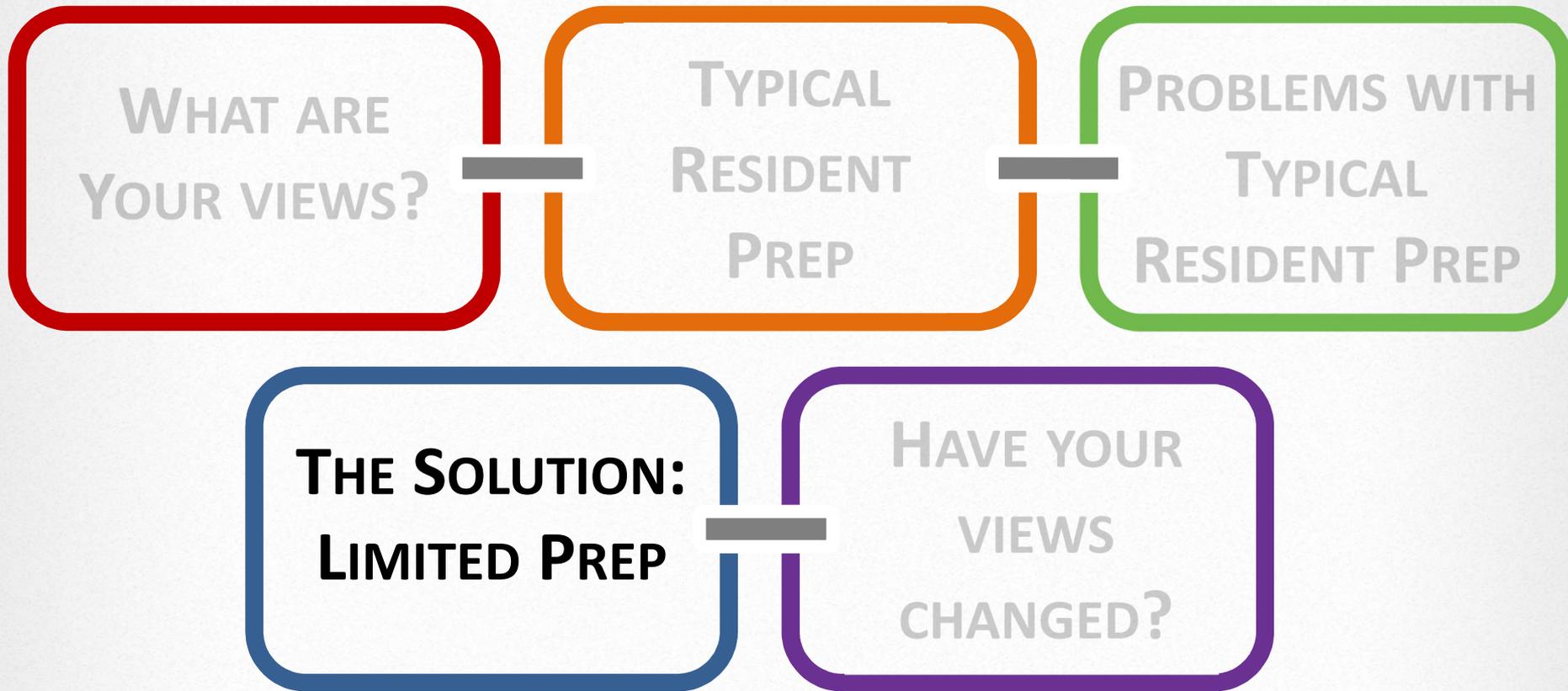
Picture courtesy of BedBug Central



Picture courtesy of BedBug Central

Bags that are ripped/torn or opened

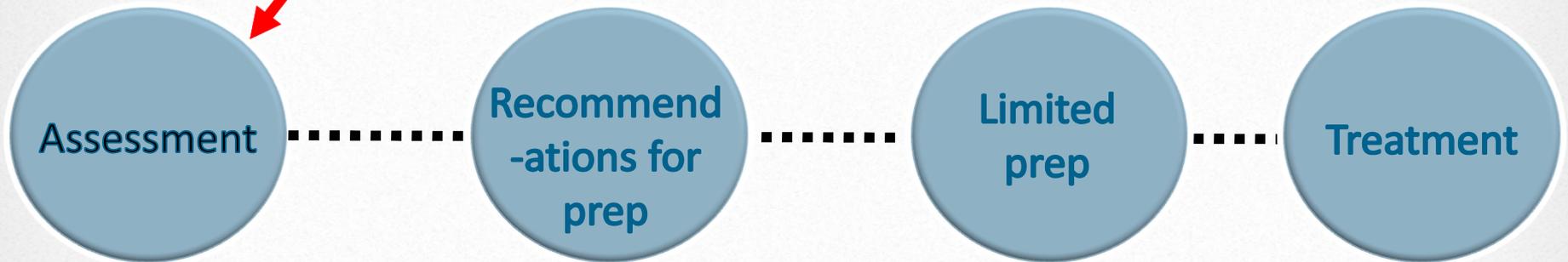
SECTION 4 - The Solution: Limited Prep



EXTENSIVE PREP – TYPICAL SEQUENCE



LIMITED PREP (ASSESSMENT-BASED PREP)



THE FOUNDATION OF ASSESSMENT-BASED PREP

Assessment

1. Determine infestation level

2. Determine primary locations

Recommend prep for that specific site based on:

1. Which areas are infested
2. Any obstacles to successful control



LIMITED PREP

Strip beds of bedding

Stand mattress and box spring on end

Empty closets, dressers, wardrobes, and bag everything

Launder all clothes and keep other items bagged for > 6 mths

Remove items beneath beds and bag for > 6 mths

Extensive

Limited

YES

NO

YES

NO

YES

Only specific areas if bugs observed on first visit

YES

Only specific items if bugs observed on first visit, address other items

YES

Not initially, items need to be addressed



ARE THESE YOUR USUAL REASONS FOR ASKING RESIDENTS TO DO PREP?

1

Access to
items / places

2

Not my
stuff

3

A rogue
bug



Access to
items / places

Not my
stuff

A rogue bug

But hold on . . .



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

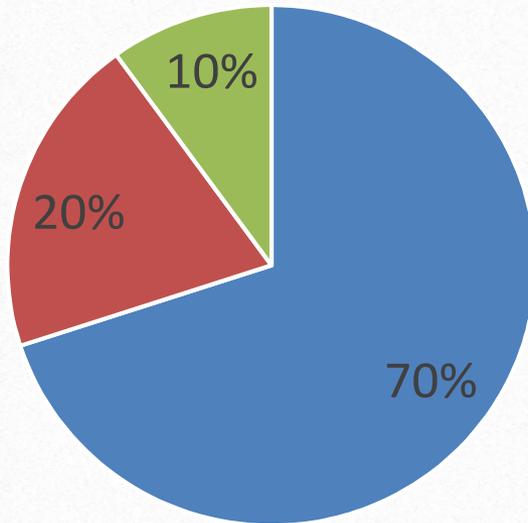
WHAT PERCENT OF BED BUG INFESTATIONS ARE LOW OR MODERATE?

POLL



90% OF INFESTATIONS ARE LOW OR MODERATE

Percent of Bed Bug Infestation Levels Found in Affordable Housing



■ Low ■ Moderate ■ High

Low level = 20 or less bugs

Moderate level = 21 - 100 bugs

High level = Over 100 bugs



And that means that. . .

90% of the infestations are here -



- and here.



You will only find bed bugs here -



and here



If there is a high level infestation – and that is only 10% of the time.



**DON'T
CHASE THE
BED BUGS,
LET THEM
COME TO
YOU**



DON'T CHASE THE BED BUGS, LET THEM COME TO YOU – PART 2

Can you find the praying mantis?

Found it, right?

Feeling pretty proud of yourself at how easy that was?



Might take a lot of time and energy, right?

Now imagine that bug is a LOT smaller and you have to find it in a home environment.

Every infestation is different, every apartment is different

Preparations should not be “one size fits all”.

Questions to ask:



Is this a low level infestation that was recently introduced?



Is this a severe infestation that has existed for a long time without being reported?



Is the unit cluttered or uncluttered?



What other questions might you ask?

An Example: Wardrobes and Drawers

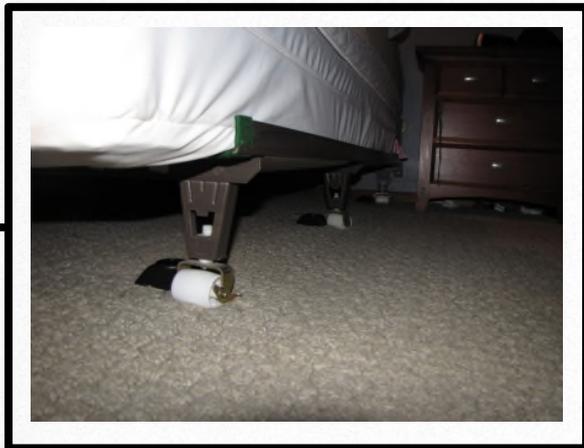
Usually only found here with high-level activity.

90% of the time, they are not here.

Emptying a wardrobe / drawers and washing everything is likely to have no impact on successful treatment 90% of the time.



Killing Them as They Move



Request Prep as Needed

**Base
resident
prep on . . .**

**. . . what you see
in your visual
assessment:**

NOT where the bugs might be.



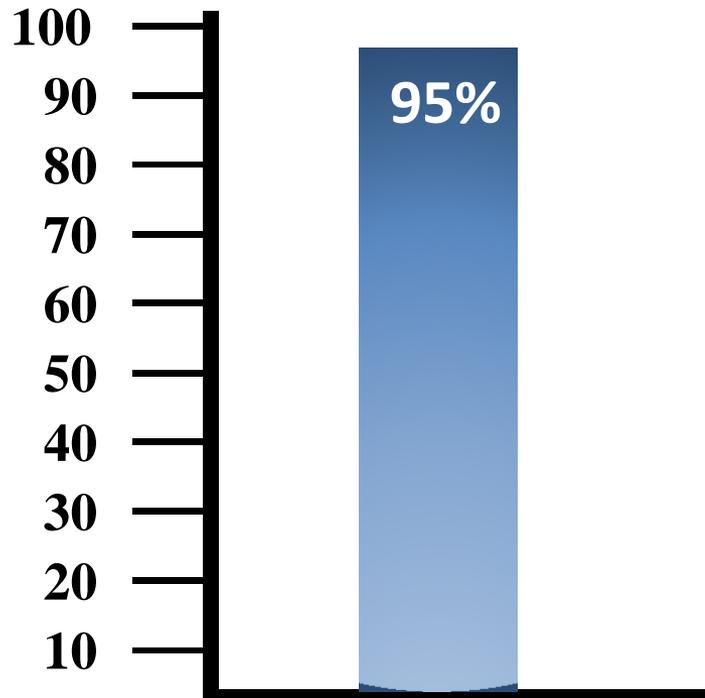
HANDLE A BED BUG INFESTATION LIKE A CRIME SCENE

CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION



STUDY OF 114 BED BUG CASES:

Percent of bed bugs eliminated with no resident preparation



Reality

Check #2

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

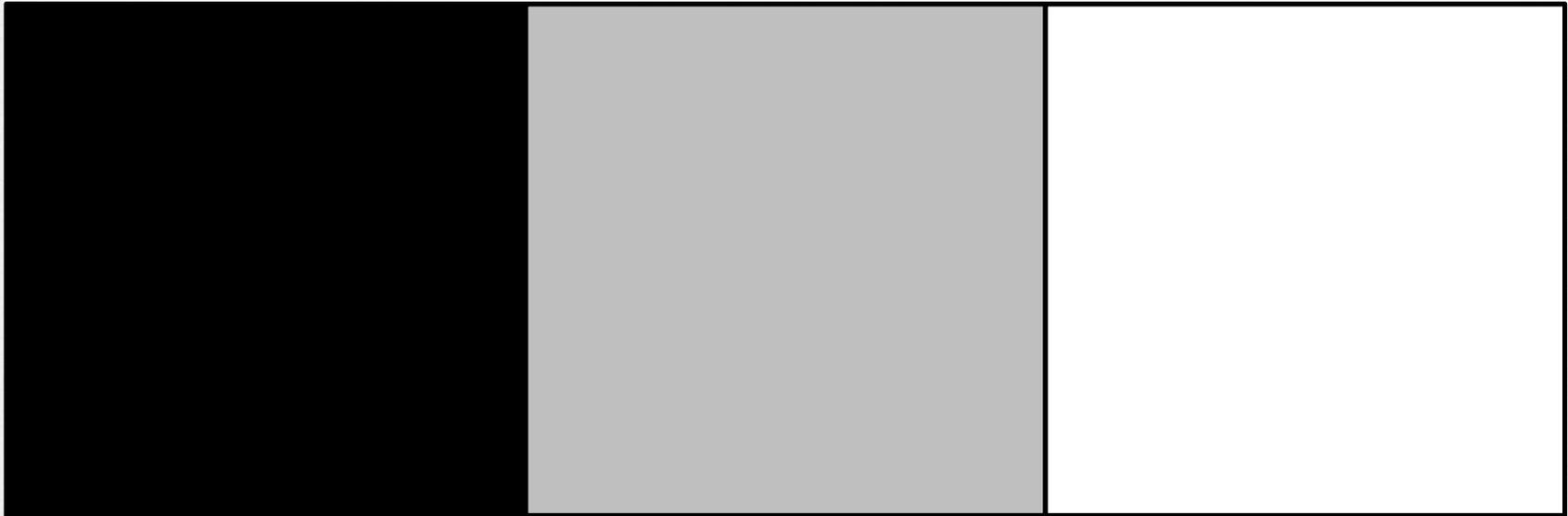
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Don't require these eight residents to do extensive prep ...

... just because these residents have to do it.

Black and white thinking doesn't work in a gray world.

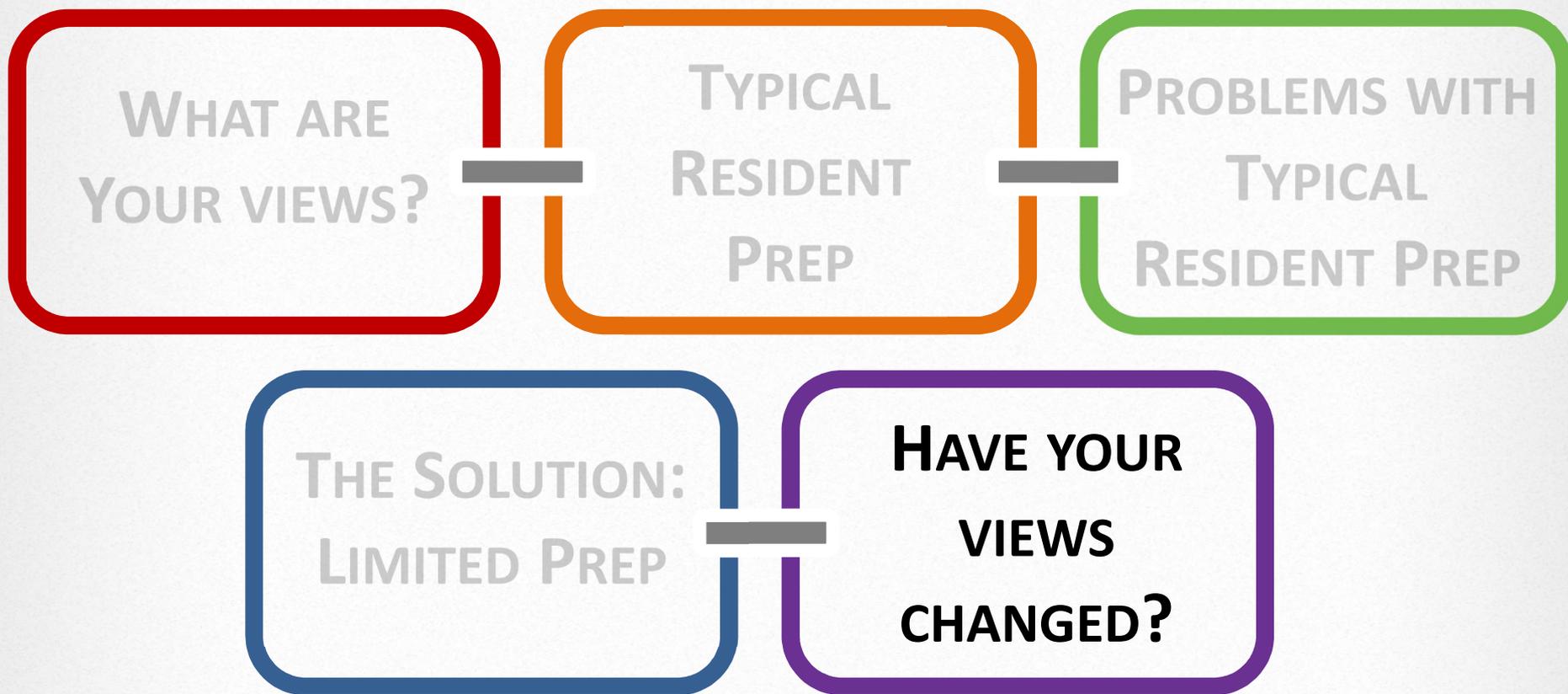


WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE BIGGEST BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTING LIMITED PREP?

POLL



SECTION 5: Have Your Views Changed?



SECTION 5

**HAVE YOUR VIEWS
CHANGED?**





POLLS REDUX



HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR A RESIDENT TO PREPARE THEIR APARTMENT PRIOR TO A BED BUG TREATMENT?

POLL



ARE ALL YOUR RESIDENTS WITH BED BUGS REQUIRED TO DO THE SAME PREP PRIOR TO TREATMENT?

POLL



Poll Results

How important is it for a resident to prepare their apartment prior to a bed bug treatment?

Are all your residents with bed bugs required to do the same prep prior to treatment?

BEFORE

AFTER



Questions?

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