

How to Make a Furniture Leg Bed Bug Trap

NOTE: these traps will work only if your bed, couch, or chair has legs. No part of the furniture (except the legs) can be touching the floor, walls, or other furniture. Otherwise, bed bugs will find another way up onto the furniture.

1. Buy 2 sizes of plastic bowls. One bowl should fit easily inside the other. You will need 2 bowls for each furniture leg that you want to protect. The sizes of the bowls will depend on the size of the furniture legs. Each bowl must be at least 1 ½ inches high.
2. Lightly sprinkle talcum powder into the small bowl. Baby powder will work as long as it contains talc and *not* cornstarch. The powder prevents the bed bugs coming down off the bed from getting out of the small bowl.
3. Put masking tape or sports tape around the *outside* of the large bowl. This is to help the bed bugs crawl up into the large bowl. Bed bugs have a hard time climbing on slick surfaces and they cannot jump or fly.
4. Put soapy water (liquid hand soap or dishwashing detergent in water is fine) into the large bowl. This is to drown bed bugs that try to get to the furniture leg.
5. Put the small bowl inside the large bowl and put the furniture leg into the small bowl.
6. Check the bowls often and empty the beg bugs. You can flush them down the toilet.
7. Make sure that the furniture is at least 3 inches away from any wall or other piece of furniture. Keep bed covers and sheets from touching the floor, any wall or other furniture.

Even if you don't have bed bugs, the bowl traps or the ClimbUp® interceptors can help you monitor for bed bugs. The earlier you know you have them, the easier it will be to get rid of them.

Photo of the commercial ClimbUp® Interceptor

www.insect-interceptor.com

