

# LIVESAFE

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## ► Rid the Household of Head Lice

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**Head lice can survive on objects in your home or work for up to 48 hours.**

You don't need to spend a lot of time or money on housecleaning activities. Be diligent and clean as soon as possible but you do not have to sterilize every fabric surface in your home. Follow these steps to help avoid re-infestation by lice that have recently fallen off the hair or crawled onto clothing or furniture:

- All clothing and bed linens that the infested person wore or used during the two days before treatment must be treated in one of the following ways:
  - Machine wash all washable clothing and bed linens that the infested person wore or used during the two days before treatment. Use the hot water (130°F) cycle and dry using high heat for at least 20 minutes.
  - Dry clean clothing that is not washable.
  - Clothing, stuffed animals, comforters, etc., that cannot be washed or dry cleaned should be sealed in a plastic bag for 2 weeks.
- Soak combs and brushes for 1 hour in rubbing alcohol or Lysol or wash with soap and hot (130°F) water.
- Vacuum the floor and furniture. The risk of getting re-infested from a louse that has fallen onto a carpet or sofa is very small. Just vacuum the places where the infested person usually sits or lays. Do not use fumigant sprays; they can be toxic if inhaled or absorbed through skin.

**WORK  
SAFE.  
LIVE  
SAFE.  
BE  
SAFE.**

Adapted from: [www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice)