

Head Lice Prevention and Control Checklist- Parent Information

In addition to nit picking, combing with a proper lice comb and the use of lice treatment products here are some additional guidelines for preventing head lice re-infestation and transfer to other people. Get in to the routine of checking your child's head regularly even if they do not have active head lice. This is especially important after school breaks, camps or sleep overs. EARLY DETECTION, COMBING AND NIT PICKING ARE THE MOST ESSESTIAL STEPS FOR GETTING RID OF LICE.

Towels and Bedding

Use a clean towel for every bath or shampoo. Store apart from other laundry and wash separately.

Wash bedding in hot water and hot dryer whenever live bugs are found and once per week until all nits are gone.

Limit bedding to sheets, blanket and one pillow until lice have been gone for 2 weeks.

Change pillowcase frequently as long as nits are present and every time lice are found.

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| week until all nits are gone. | |
| Limit bedding to sheets, blanket and one pillow until lice have been gone for 2 weeks. | |
| Change pillowcase frequently as long as nits are present and every time lice are found. | |
| Put pillow in dryer for 20 minutes every time lice are found. | |
| Combs, Brushes, Hair Articles | |
| Each family member has own comb and brush kept separately. | |
| Bag hair items, headbands for 2 weeks, unless washable. | |
| Boil all brushes/combs for 10 minutes. Repeat daily until no evidence of lice is found. | |
| Repeat once weekly as a proactive measure. | |
| Furniture and Toys | |
| Child with lice sits in only <u>one</u> chair for 2 weeks. | |
| Child is only allowed in <u>one</u> bed. | |
| No one else is allowed in that bed or chair | |
| Put all play things used in past 2 days that are soft, fuzzy or have hair in sealed plastic | |
| garbage bags for two weeks – unless washable. | |
| Other items that have contact with the head and neck that are not washable or dry | |
| cleanable need to be bagged. IRONING IS ALSO A WAY TO KILL LICE. | |
| Vacuuming (Start with a new bag for good suction) | |
| Vacuum chair every day or two | |
| Vacuum carpet where child plays 2-3 times per week. | |
| Vacuum all sides of child's mattress. | |
| Vacuum floor after nit picking (change vacuum bag after). | |
| Car | |
| Vacuum car upholstery whenever live bugs are found and once a week. | |
| Child sits in one seat in the car and no one else sits there. | |
| Clothes | |
| Wash all clothes that touched the head and neck in the past 48 hours or limit to 10-15 | |
| washed outfits for 2 weeks kept in a clean area to avoid washing all contaminated | |

clothing. (Leave the rest in closets, dressers, or bags for 2 weeks).

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| Put in laundry after wearing one time – separate from other laundry. | | |
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| Wash clothes in hot water and dry on hot dryer setting. | | |
| Put away "dress up" clothes when there are head lice (wash or place in plastic bag if | | |
| used recently). | | |
| Jackets and Hats | | |
| Put hat, mittens, and scarves in sleeve of jacket. | | |
| Hang jacket away from other jackets, clothes or upholstery. | | |
| School, Daycare or Friends Homes | | |
| Contact school or day care and investigate where child hangs coat, hats, naps, etc. Keep | | |
| cots and blankets for napping separate. | | |
| In places where a child does not have a separate cubby or locker have children place | | |
| coats, jackets, hats and scarves in green garbage bags. | | |
| Restrict your child from participating in activities where there is a greater chance of | | |
| head to head contact until the issue is resolved. | | |
| Encourage your children not to share their hats, clothing, hairbrushes/combs and hair | | |
| accessories with other children and to avoid head to head contact. | | |
| Ask daycares/day homes remove play clothing, blankets and cloth furniture until the | | |
| issue is resolved. | | |
| Call parents of friends your child has played with in the past two weeks and advise them | | |
| to check heads. | | |
| Have children who share a locker or hooks or close contact checked. | | |
| Do not go to school, daycare or to visit others until live lice has been treated and | | |
| removed. | | |
| Avoid places or take precautions where lice can spread easily (e.g. camps, sleepovers). | | |
| Notify teacher or daycare provider every time your child has lice. | | |
| Find out whom your child sits by on the bus and have them checked. | | |
| Send a separate bag to school for your child's jacket, hats etc. to avoid catching from | | |
| nearby coats. | | |
| Keep long hair in braids or tied up in ponytail. | | |
| Spray hair gel, hair spray or a weak solution of essential oil on hair before children go to | | |
| school and/or camps. This will help deter lice. | | |

Additional Resources:

Video: How to identify head lice

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrScqdNuTpchttps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrScqdNuTpc

Video: How to remove head lice safely https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o75oLlVgKcE

Video: How to use a lice comb https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gBQN5P1xEM#t=125

The Nice Lice Lady http://thenicelicelady.blogspot.ca/
The Nit Pickers www.thenitpickers.ca 780 488-6368

Alberta Health Services https://myhealth.alberta.ca/health/pages/conditions.aspx?hwid=hw51114&