

Head Lice Prevention and Control Tips

Parent Information

In addition to regular screening, <u>detection combing</u> and the use of lice treatment products		
(when live lice are present), here are some guidelines for preventing head lice transfer to other		
people and re-infestation. Get into the routine of checking your child's head weekly even	if	
they do not have active head lice. This is especially important after school breaks, camp	os, or	
sleep overs. EARLY DETECTION is essential for lice control and preventing re-infestation.	,	
Remember, not all cases of lice are symptomatic.		
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.		
Put pillow in hot dryer for 20 minutes every time lice are found.		
Combs, Brushes, Hair Articles		
Ensure each family member has own comb and brush kept separately.		
Bag unwastable items, headbands for 2 weeks		
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 a designated chair for 2 weeks.		
Child is only allowed in their own bed.		
Put all playthings used in past 2 days that are soft, fuzzy or have hair in sealed plastic		
garbage bags for two weeks – unless washable.		
Items that have had contact with the head and neck that are not washable or dry		
cleanable should be put in sealed bag for 2 weeks.		
Vacuuming		
Vacuum chair and floors every day or two for loose hairs	Щ_	
Vacuum carpet where child plays 2-3 times per week.	Щ_	
Vacuum all sides of child's mattress	<u> </u>	
Vacuum floor after combing and nit picking		
Car		
Vacuum car upholstery whenever live bugs are found		
Child sits in one seat in the car and no one else sits there.		

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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).	
Put in laundry after wearing one time – separate from other laundry.	
Wash clothes in hot water and dry on hot setting.	
Put away "dress up" clothes when there are head lice (wash or place in sealed plastic	
bag if used recently).	
Jackets and Hats	
Keep 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	
coat, jacket, hat and scarf in a plastic bag.	
Avoid participating in activities where there is a greater chance of head-to-head contact	
until the issue is resolved.	
Encourage 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 soft furnishings 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.	
If child shares a locker have school notify the other parent/guardian to check their	
child's head.	
Find out whom your child sits by on the bus and advise parent to have them checked.	
Avoid going to school, daycare or visiting others until live lice has been treated with an	
approved product following the pharmacists' instructions and regular detection	
combing is being done.	
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.	
Send a separate bag to school for your child's jacket, hat etc.	
Keep long hair in braids or tied up in ponytail.	

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