

SAMPLE HEAD LICE TREATMENT SCHEDULE

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| Day 1: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notify or check all exposed family members and friends.• Treat those who are infested with live lice or have evidence of nits laid ¼ inch - ½ inch from the scalp with medicated lice-killing shampoo.• Comb/pick nits out of hair.• Wash all clothing, towels, bedding, toys in hot (130°) water and dry on high heat for 30 minutes.• Vacuum all carpeting, furniture, and car upholstery. |
| Day 2: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• DO NOT WASH hair.• Comb/pick nits out of hair.• Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| Day 3: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• May use regular shampoo/conditioner.• Comb/pick nits out of hair.• Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| Day 4: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• May use regular shampoo/conditioner.• Comb/pick nits out of hair. |
| Day 5: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• May use regular shampoo/conditioner.• Comb/pick nits out of hair.• Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| Day 6: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• May use regular shampoo/conditioner.• Comb/pick nits out of hair. |
| Day 7: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vacuum.• Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed.• If nits or lice are still seen, REPEAT TREATMENT if indicated by manufacturer's instructions. If repeat treatment is not indicated on manufacturer's instructions, wash hair with regular shampoo/conditioner.• Comb/pick nits out of hair.• Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |

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| <p>Day 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • DO NOT WASH hair if medicated shampoo was used on day 7. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. • Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| <p>Day 9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • May use regular shampoo/conditioner. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. |
| <p>Day 10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • If nits or lice are still seen, REPEAT TREATMENT if indicated by manufacturer's instructions. If repeat treatment is not indicated on manufacturer's instructions, wash hair with regular shampoo/conditioner. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. • Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| <p>Day 11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • DO NOT WASH hair if medicated shampoo was used on day 10. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. • Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| <p>Day 12:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • May use regular shampoo/conditioner. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. |
| <p>Day 13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits that may have been missed. • May use regular shampoo/conditioner. • Comb/pick nits out of hair. • Dry clothing, bedding, towels on high heat for 30 minutes (with or without washing). |
| <p>Day 14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum. • Check all members of home for nits or lice. • If nits are found ¼ inch to ½ inch from scalp or live lice are found anywhere on hair, contact your healthcare provider for further treatment. |

Follow all treatment instructions carefully. Only some products recommend a second treatment after 7 to 10 days. Do not use extra amounts or extra doses unless your doctor tells you to do so. This is only a sample schedule and does not take the place of manufacturer's or physician's instructions.

Possible reasons for treatment ineffectiveness:

- Wrong diagnoses – dandruff, hair products, dust, and other objects can seem like nits and other insects can look like lice.
- Poor treatment – directions on the treatment product were not correctly followed.
- Resistance to some head lice products has been reported, but the actual prevalence of resistance is not known and can vary in different parts of the US. Your child's pediatrician or the county health department should have the most up-to-date information regarding treatment resistance.
- Timing – the lice may take a few days to die and nits may hatch during that time. Repeating treatment per manufacturer's instructions should account for the typical head lice life cycle.
- New lice – re-infestation from playmate or family member.