The Real Cost of Tenting

A free compare-and-prep checklist

The number on a fumigation quote is the price. The cost is the price plus everything you have to do, pay for, and give up to get ready, get out, and get back in. Use this sheet to write down your quotes, check off the prep, write down what each step costs you, and add it all up at the end. Get at least three opinions before you decide. And yes, sometimes the tent is the right call. This is about knowing the whole bill before you pick.

How to use it

1. Write your quotes in Step 1. 2. Work through the Step 2 prep list. Check each box and write what it cost you. 3. Add it all up in Step 3. The time on each line is a rough estimate. Your house will be different.

Step 1. Write down your quotes

	Tent fumigation	Coby's Tentless
Company name		
Treatment price	$	$
Yearly renewal	$	$
Whole house treated, or only the spots where termites were found?		
If termites come back, what do they do? (Re-treat? At what cost?)		
How long the warranty lasts		
Days out of your home	About 3	0

Ask every company the whole-house question. A spot treatment and a whole-house treatment can both get called "tentless," and they aren't the same job.

Heads up: added together, the tenting prep on the next pages runs roughly **20 to 40 hours of your own time**, not counting the three days out of your house. Getting ready for Coby's Tentless takes about 30 minutes.

Step 2. Getting ready for a tent fumigation

Your fumigation company will give you its own prep sheet. Follow theirs first. Check each box as you go and write down what it cost you. Grey boxes are steps that cost time, not money.

	Task	Est. time	Your cost
2 to 3 weeks before			
☐	Get at least three opinions and written quotes	3-5 hrs	
☐	Read the contract: what it says about roof tiles, gutters and plants	30 min	
☐	Take before photos of your roof, gutters and landscaping	20 min	
☐	Book a hotel or a place to stay, about 3 nights	30 min	$
☐	Call the vet for the records boarding needs (visit if needed)	30 min-1.5 hrs	$
☐	Book pet boarding. Birds and fish have to go too	30 min	$
☐	Ask for time off work (prep day, moving out, moving back)	15 min	$
☐	Pool cage: book a screen company to take panels down and put them back	30 min	$
☐	Cut back heavy shrubs and vines along the walls, or hire it out	2-6 hrs	$
☐	Ask: do I need the gas company to shut off service and relight pilots?	30 min	$
The week before			
☐	Pantry, fridge and freezer: anything not sealed in its original plastic, glass or metal bottle leaves or goes in the special double bags	2-4 hrs	$
☐	Same for medicines, vitamins, pet food and treats	30-60 min	$
☐	Find a place for every houseplant you want to keep, and haul them	1 hr	
☐	Pack clothes, chargers, toiletries and medicine for about 3 days	1 hr	
☐	Pause package deliveries and tell your neighbors the date	20 min	
☐	Ask who waters the ground around the house before the tent goes up	5 min	
Moving-out day			
☐	Last bagging, plants out, drive the pets to boarding	2-3 hrs	$
☐	Be there for the screen and yard crews	1-2 hrs	
☐	Keys to the crew for every outside door. Everyone out	30 min	
While you're out (about 3 days)			
☐	Meals out for the whole family		$
Coming home			
☐	Wait for the crew to test the air and clear the house	varies	
☐	Pick up the pets	1 hr	
☐	Restock groceries and medicine	1-2 hrs	
☐	Be home while the screen company puts the panels back	1-2 hrs	
☐	Walk the roof, gutters and yard against your photos. Repairs the contract won't cover	30 min	$
☐	Replace plants that didn't make it	2-4 hrs	$
	Your totals	____ hrs	**$**

Time estimates are rough planning numbers, not promises. A bigger house, more pets or a heavy yard takes longer.

Step 3. Add it all up

Bring your numbers over from Steps 1 and 2. Then you've got the real cost, side by side.

	Tent fumigation	Coby's Tentless
Treatment price (Step 1)	$	$
Prep costs (Step 2 total)	$	$
Your hours (Step 2 total)	____ hrs	about 0.5 hrs
Optional: your hours x what an hour of your time is worth ($____)	$	$
= TRUE FIRST-YEAR COST	**$**	**$**
Yearly renewal after that	**$**	**$**

Getting ready for Coby's Tentless treatment

This list is a lot shorter. You stay home. Your food stays in the pantry. Your pets stay with you. Your screens stay up.

☐	Clear a path to the attic hatch or pull-down stairs. We need to get into the attic.	10-15 min
☐	If something is blocking under a window (a dresser, a bookcase, a toy chest), slide it out a little so we can get to it.	10-15 min
☐	That's about it. Because we can treat from either side of a wall, we can usually work around just about anything else.	

Not every house is a fit for tentless

Sometimes when we come out, we'll tell you the tent is the better call for your house, and we'll mean it. The only way to know is to look. We price it at the house after we've seen it, based on the size of the home.

Haven't signed the tent contract yet? Make one call first.
Call 727-462-0400 or text 727-458-7900 with your address. We'll come look, the inspection is free, there's no obligation, and you can put our number right next to the others in Step 1.

As long as GOD keeps making them, we'll keep killing them.