

What are Bed Bugs?

Bed bugs are small reddish-brown insects. They're about 3/16 inch long (size of an apple seed) and easily visible to the naked eye. They are wingless, but are fast crawlers. Their bodies are very flat with slender legs and antennae. Nymphs (immature bed bugs) resemble the adults--but are smaller and often lighter in color, from 1/16". Eggs are tiny, white and glued to surfaces. Bed bugs feed on the blood of humans during the night or in darkness and crawl away to hide in nearby cracks, crevices, recesses of furniture (especially mattresses and head boards), clutter, electronic equipment, and walls of the home during the day. They can live several months without a blood meal. Associated with people for thousands of years, they were drastically reduced after World War II by the use of pesticides that are no longer available for use, or to which they developed resistance. An individual bed bug feeds for only 3-10 minutes after biting and normally feeds only every few days.



Traveling Tips

- Inspect mattress and headboard with flashlight.
- Keep bags, luggage, and backpacks off the bed. Inspect and then use a luggage rack.
- Never place clothes, or jackets, on bed or couch. Do not store clothes in dresser.
- If you are concerned about exposure, after travel, seal all items in plastic bags until time for washing or treatment.
- Unpack clothes directly into washer / dryer.
- Inspect luggage closely with flashlight and magnifying glass for bed bugs upon returning home.

Bites and Disease

Bed bugs are not known to transmit disease. Bites are often painless and occur at night while you are sleeping. Some people suffer allergic reactions and develop painful swelling and others do not, making regular inspection a necessity for home owners.



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Bed Bug

Prevention, Detection & Control

Day-to-Day Prevention

Bed bugs are excellent hitchhikers, so be extra careful when traveling (see tips below).

Change and wash bedding regularly.

Do not bring second-hand furniture into your home unless you have thoroughly inspected and cleaned the items first.

Reduce clutter.



The important thing is to act fast — before they have time to multiply.



We Shoot to Kill and Aim to Please!

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What About The Bites?

Both male and female bed bugs bite and ingest blood. The blood meals are necessary for the female to reproduce and the juveniles to develop. The bites themselves are normally painless, and the host typically is not disturbed while bed bugs feed. While responses differ, within a day of the bites most people then experience itching pain and or swelling of the skin where the bite occurred. This is most common on the arms, face, hands, back or other exposed areas. Bed bugs are drawn to body warmth and carbon dioxide from our respiration. You will usually see 3 or 4 bites in a line or grouped together. However, the bites themselves can easily be confused with bites from other insects or arachnids (4 legs-ticks & spiders). It often takes finding the bed bugs, their eggs, or droppings in the residence to positively confirm a bed bug infestation.

Are They a Health Risk

There is currently no evidence that bed bugs are involved in the transmission of any disease causing agent, including Hepatitis B virus or HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Bed bugs do not transmit disease organisms

after feeding on multiple hosts. Regardless, bed bugs severely reduce the quality of life by causing discomfort, sleeplessness, embarrassment, and in some people, extreme anxiety.

Where do Bed Bugs Hide?

- Mattresses, box springs, bed frames and head boards (along seams and piping, under handles and labels).
- Under the thin dust cloth on bottom of box spring.
- Seams and fabric folds in curtains and under furniture, including chairs and sofas.
- Under wall-to-wall carpeting and padding.
- Anywhere there are cracks, crevices or nail holes in walls, and under wood moldings and baseboards.
- Under loose wallpaper and seams, and where ceiling and wall meet.
- In and behind picture frames and mirrors.
- Clothing and clutter stored in closets, under beds and elsewhere.
- Inside switch plates, electrical outlets, clocks, computers, phones, televisions and smoke detectors.
- On and in recently used luggage, backpacks and bags.



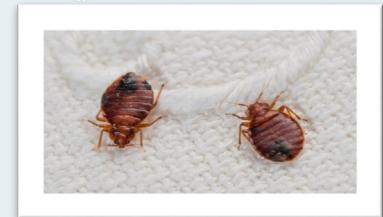
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Important: Capture several examples of the pest and have them identified by a qualified expert before taking any further actions.

Signs of Bed Bugs

- Small, whitish shed skins and rusty spots on bed linens which are droppings and blood stains from crushed bugs.
- Live bed bugs of any size.
- Eggs and casings among droppings or in crevices where adults hide.
- An offensive, sweet, musty odor from the bed bugs when infestations are severe.
- You may have red, itchy welts or rashes from bites; however, bite marks are **not** a reliable indication of a bed bug infestation.



Control Methods & Options

- A Prep sheet is provided prior to all treatments
- Liquid concentrates are used along with aerosols to provide a two step process with different active ingredients to prevent insect resistance and provide better control
- Dust & Powder for crack and crevice
- Bed bug mattress and box spring covers are always recommended.
- IPM (Integrated Pest Management) solutions are implemented for all sensitive clientele and environments

