



Bed Bugs

What are bed bugs?

Bed bugs feed on the blood of people and animals.

- Adult bed bugs are small and flat
- Reddish-brown in color
- Bed bugs do not have wings
- Smaller than Lincoln's head on a penny

How can I treat bed bug bites?

- Avoid scratching the area.
- Wash the area of the bite with an antiseptic, cream, or lotion.
- Contact your healthcare provider if the bite becomes infected.

How do bed bugs get in people's homes?

- Bed bugs usually get into homes through luggage, clothing, or other personal items during travel.
- Bed bugs can be found all over the world.

Where do they hide?

- Beds (seams, tufts, and crevices of mattresses and box springs), bed frames, headboards, and in clutter under beds.
- Carpets and baseboards.
- Behind loose wallpaper.
- Folds of curtains and drapes.
- In clocks, radios, or phones near a bed or on a nightstand.
- Inside and underneath drawers.
- Picture frames.

Signs of a bed bug infestation:

- Dark reddish-brown spots or smears on bed sheets, pillowcases, or mattresses from bed bug blood-filled fecal matter.
- Small, itchy red bumps on skin— likely from bed bug bites.
- Seeing bed bugs

How do I get rid of bed bugs?

- Find the source.
- Use a vacuum cleaner to remove the bugs and their shed skins from all areas where you see them or think they might be— empty into a garbage bag and take out of the house. Do this at least every week until they are gone.
- Vacuum mattresses; then enclose the mattress in a zippered mattress cover.
- Wash headboards and bed frames.
- Use a high-quality silicone-based sealant. Seal shut all cracks, crevices, and entry points in walls, especially within 20 feet of any spot where bed bug bites happened.
- Do not use a bug killer on your own. It may only spread the infestation. Contact a licensed pest control operator.
- Once clothes, sheets and pillows are laundered, place them in a plastic bag or tightly closed bins to prevent re-infestation.
- Keep cleaned (bed bug-free) items separated until bed bugs are gone.
- If problem continues, a professional pest control operator may be needed.