



GUIDE TO BED BUGS

ABOUT BED BUGS

Bed bugs are small bugs that are reddish-brown when adults and less than ¼ inch and appear to be relatively flat. Other developmental stages of the bedbug might be light white or clear in color making early detection difficult. Bed bugs feed on blood, which provides the fuel they need to develop through their life cycle.

Bedbug populations are growing rapidly for a number of reasons. Including their secretive nature and ability to avoid detection and move with humans from one place to the next undetected until the population is critically high.

Many people think bedbugs aren't real or don't understand how good they are at avoiding detection and becoming a major problem.

Often people are bitten by bedbugs and have no reaction. The bedbug bite is often painless though some people show irritation at the bite location. After several nights of bites some people can develop a reaction to the bites. A pest professional should not try to identify bites and consulting a medical professional is recommended for proper identification.

Bedbugs are nocturnal and infestations are typically found in bedrooms or areas where people sleep like couches, sofas, recliners and love seats. The infestation can also spread to nightstands, dressers, curtains and other items in the room near the bed.

FACT

Bedbugs do not have wings. But they are excellent hitchhikers and can travel on humans and things like suitcases and purses without ever being detected until it is too late.

Avoiding infestations:

Early detection is critical to protecting from a small bug turning into a BIG problem. Early detected problems often take fewer treatments and less money. We recommend properly installed bedbug mattress and box spring encasements installed properly and inspected regularly for rips and tears.

Early detection is key:

Washing bedding and linens regularly might not prevent an infestation but it will make it more likely to be discovered by seeing things like live bugs, blood spots from smashed bugs, bed bug fecal spots and eggs.

Avoid clutter especially in bedrooms and around sleeping quarters.

If possible avoid second hand clothes and mattresses-finding infestations on these items can be difficult especially if the infestation is in early stages.

Protect yourself when you travel and stay in hotel rooms

Remember: Bed bugs can be found almost anywhere in the world and on anyone. They do not pick and choose humans; they feed on rich and poor alike.

Early detection and treatment are important!