

Bed Bugs



Bed bugs typically hide around the seam of furniture and in cracks and crevices close to where you are in resting. They do not transmit disease or pose any medical risks, with the exception of noticeable bites that usually occur in clusters. That being said, some people may not notice any bites at all. Unfortunately, once bedbugs take up residence in homes and businesses, it is nearly impossible to eliminate them without professional help.

Though bed bugs are somewhat common today, they were almost extinct in the US from about 1965 to the mid-90's.

Bed bugs are flat and round (about the size of an apple seed) with a reddish-brown color once they have fed. What makes them difficult to get rid of is that they can live for a few months without food and easily hitch hike, so you can bring them in without even noticing. They can easily hide in the seams of luggage, bags and/or clothes. Though they can travel up to 100 feet to feed, they typically hang out close to where you are in resting the most (usually within a few feet of bed, couches, chairs).

These pests hatch from eggs and go through five nymphal stages of development. They must feed in between each stage of development in order to grow to the next stage. Once they have fed, bed bugs grow to their next stage through ecdysis (discarding their exoskeleton). When they first hatch, they are translucent and only darken after they have fed. Female adult bed bugs must only breed once in their lifetime to begin laying their eggs for the rest of their life (typical lifespan of 4-6 months). During their lifespan, an adult female can lay up to 250 eggs. Eggs hatch in six to ten days, meaning infestations can grow fairly rapidly.