

Bed bugs were once a common nuisance and are currently making a comeback worldwide. Bed bugs can be found in the cleanest of homes, hotels, and other buildings.

Bed bugs can be found almost anywhere in the hotel room. They are most often found in fabric and wood, not metal or plastic. Places to look include:

Bed bugs hidden beside a recessed screw under a nightstand.



(M. Potter, Univ. of Kentucky)

### WHERE BED BUGS HIDE

Dark spots of bed bug excrement on a mattress.



(M. Potter, Univ. of Kentucky)

- In bed frames and headboards
- In mattresses and box springs (especially in the seams or creases)
- Along and under the edge of carpet (behind beds and furniture)
- In hardwood floors (check corners and cracks)
- In molding and baseboard cracks
- Behind picture frames and wall hangings
- In switch plates and outlets
- Under loose wallpaper and paneling
- In clothing or linens stored in closets and drawers
- Inside clocks, phones, TVs and smoke detectors
- In cloth chairs and sofas (check seams, skirts, and under cushions)

# BED BUGS

Inspection, Prevention, Control



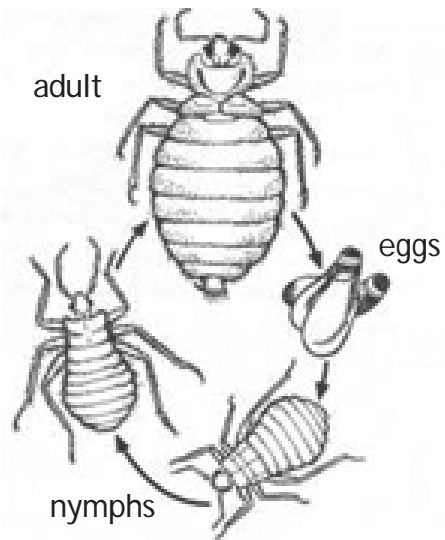
Don't let the bed bugs bite.



Georgia Department of Human Resources  
Division of Public Health  
Environmental Health & Injury Prevention Branch

<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/envservices/index.asp>

Work with a reputable pest control company trained to deal with bed bug infestations. Request a written integrated pest management (IPM) plan from the pest control operator. This plan should detail the methods and insecticides to be used by the pest control operator and describe the role of the building manager in dealing with the infestation.



Bed bugs are small wingless insects that feed solely upon the blood of warm-blooded animals. They are sometimes mistaken for ticks or cockroaches. A mature bed bug is oval-bodied, brown to red-brown in color, wingless and flattened top to bottom. Unfed bugs are 1/4 to 3/8 inch long. A bed bug that has recently fed is engorged with blood, dull red in color, and the body is elongated and swollen. Eggs are white and are about 1/25 inch long. Newly hatched bed bugs are nearly colorless or straw-colored.

Bed bug usually feed on exposed skin of the face, neck, hands, arms, and shoulders. Bites often result in large itchy welts.

**DO NOT USE:**

(1) Aerosol sprays - these will cause bed bugs to scatter

(2) Bug Bombs - these do not kill bed bugs

**GETTING RID OF BED BUGS**

- **Laundry bedding and dry** at the hottest dryer setting to kill all stages of bed bugs.
- **Thoroughly vacuum** infested areas. This includes the mattresses, box springs furniture, beds, headboards, and sofas. Do not forget the void area underneath box springs—tear away the cambric fabric and look for bed bugs there. After you are finished, bag the vacuum cleaner bag and take it to the outside trash dumpster. Vacuum every couple days until the infestation is gone.
- **Eliminate clutter** in infested areas to reduce bed bug hiding places and make treatments more effective.
- **Repair cracks and crevices.** Eliminate harborage areas by filling in cracks, removing torn wallpaper, and sealing joints and cracks.
- **Work with a reputable pesticide company.** Generally, pesticides will need to be applied along with non-chemical control to get rid of the bed bugs. For a partial list of companies, visit:

[http://agr.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,38902732\\_0\\_41469561,00.html](http://agr.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,38902732_0_41469561,00.html)



Bed inspection



Bed bug



Bed bugs in crevices