

# What You Need to Know About Bed Bugs

## What are bed bugs?

Bed bugs are small insects that feed on the blood of people and animals, usually at night while they sleep. Bed bugs are most often found within 8 feet of sleeping areas. When traveling, it's important to check for bed bugs because they can crawl into luggage, clothing, or personal belongings and travel home with you, where they can become a **big problem**.



## Signs of bed bugs:

### Bugs Around the Bed

Flat, reddish-brown or white bugs without wings (about the size of an apple seed) hiding in the folds of mattresses and sheets.



### Dark Spots Around the Bed

Tiny, rust colored spots, dots, or stains from bed bug droppings on the mattress or sheets (spots might have a sweet, musty smell).



### Bites on the Skin

Bed bug bites are red and slightly swollen, like a mosquito bite. They may itch and appear random or in a straight line.



## Bed bugs like to hide in and around areas where people sleep:

- Around the bed
- In the seams and tags of mattresses and box springs
- In cracks on the bed frame, headboard, and nearby walls
- Under loose wall paper and wall hangings
- Under rugs
- In items nearby the bed (such as a clock or radio)
- In the folds of luggage and clothes kept near the bed

## I think I found bed bugs... What should I do?

If you own the property where bed bugs were found, **contact a licensed pest control company**.

If you rent the property where bed bugs were found, **contact your landlord**.

**Contact your local health department** if you think you've found bed bugs in a public place, such as a:

- Hotel
- Hospital
- Homeless shelter
- Nursing home
- Correctional facility
- Public transit (bus or train)



## Learn more:

