

Bed Bugs

Bed bugs have recently been on the rise and are being found in apartments, hotels, hospitals, and even colleges across the country. Experts predict that within a few short years, all student housing facilities will be affected.

Description:

Adult bed bugs a brownish-colored flat insect that measure about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long. Immature bed bugs are similar to the adults, though they are lighter in color and smaller in size. Nymphs, the newly hatched offspring, are translucent and almost impossible to see, measuring at about 1 millimeter. The eggs are whitish and are about the size of a speck of dust. Bed bugs feed on human blood, though they do not live on or infest people. They are nocturnal insects that spend daylight hours in hiding. They move about by crawling and usually reside in beds or couches. Bed bugs can live up to 20 months and can lay over 500 eggs in their lifetime.

Symptoms & Signs:

- Repeatedly waking up with unexplained bug bites on your body
- Finding live bugs matching the description above
- Dark brownish/black stains appearing on bedding

Tips to Avoid Infestations:

- Clean up any clutter in closets or on floors where bed bugs could hide
- Bag laundry and wash in hot water
- Do not bring used/discarded items into your room

Bites & Itching

Bed bug bites are much like mosquito bites in appearance. Bites usually occur in a straight line on the neck, arms, legs, or torso. The appearance of itchy welts is not always caused by bed bugs. Many other factors could cause the symptoms. Health officials can aid in identifying and alleviating your bug bites and any itching. Bed bugs have not been shown to be disease transmitting. Aside from discomfort, the bites will not usually affect your health, though reactions to bites can vary from mild to severe.

Do not attempt to address this problem by yourself.
If you experience any of these symptoms, contact the
Director of Residential Life at Ext. 1412.

Info. from: http://www.bedbugcentral.com/bed_bugs_college.cfm



Immature Bed Bug



Adult Bed Bug



Example of Bed Bug Bites