

# **A1 No Nonsense Pest Control**

## **Bed Bug Information Sheet**

**(845) 476-8523**

**Sleep tight, don't let the bed bugs bite. Don't bring bed bugs home! Here's some bed bug facts and how we can help.**

*Call us today to discuss the services we perform to ensure any infestation can be found sooner and addressed promptly. We're here for you!*

### **Bed Bug Identification Guide**

Common Name: Bed bug

Scientific Family: Cimex lectularius Linnaeus

### **Bed Bug Color**

Unfed adult bed bugs are mahogany to rusty brown color. Engorged bed bugs are red-brown color after a blood meal. Nymphs (baby bed bugs) are nearly colorless when they first hatch and become brownish as they mature.

### **Bed Bug Shape**

Unfed bed bugs are flat and broad-oval. Fed bed bugs become swollen and more elongated.

### **Bed Bug Size**

Adult bed bugs can reach a size of about 1/4 inch long. Nymphs range from 1.3 mm to 4-5 mm.

### **Bed Bug Life Cycle**

Bed bug biology naturally promotes infestation. **Female bed bugs lay one to five eggs per day, or an average of 540 eggs in a lifetime.** They typically lay their eggs in cracks or rough surfaces. Bed bug nymphs grow to full adulthood in about 21 days and go through five stages of development before they reach maturity. A bed bug will molt once during each stage of development, though a blood meal is required for a molt. An adult bed bug can live for several months without a blood meal.

### **Bed Bug Feeding**

Bed bugs are attracted to the carbon dioxide emitted by their hosts. For this reason, they tend to feed at night on bare skin that is exposed while sleeping. However, they are opportunistic insects and will consume a blood meal during the day, especially in heavily-infested areas. Although bed bugs prefer to feed on humans, they will feed on other warm-blooded hosts as well.

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### **How to Check for Bed Bugs in a Hotel Room During Your Summer Vacation**

When you go on a vacation, the last thing on your mind is going to be the thought of any pests waiting for you in your hotel or lodging facility. Also known as "hitchhikers," bed bugs are elusive and sneaky pests that can hide out in mattresses, bed frames and other parts of a room just waiting for new hosts to arrive. While this pest is not known to transmit disease, they are known for leaving behind itchy bites by feeding on the blood of unsuspecting human hosts, which can be quite upsetting.

Bed bugs usually require 5-10 minutes to engorge with blood. They feed by inserting two hollow, beak-like feeding tubes into their host. The first tube injects the bug's saliva, which contains anesthetics to numb the feeding area. The second tube draws blood. After feeding, they move to secluded places and hide for 5-10 days. During this time, they do not feed but instead digest their meal, mate and lay eggs.

To ensure a fun, relaxing vacation this summer, follow these steps on how to check for bed bugs in a hotel room, vacation rental, hostel or other lodging facility:

- Pull back the sheets and inspect the mattress seams, particularly at the corners, for telltale stains or spots.
- Thoroughly inspect the entire room before unpacking, including behind the headboard and in sofas/chairs. Keep your suitcase in the hall or right inside the door away from where any bed bugs could be.
- Carry a small flashlight or use your phone flashlight to assist you with visual inspections.
- If you spot a bed bug or any of the signs of bed bugs, alert staff and change rooms immediately. Do not stay in a room adjacent to the infested room.

This pest is small and its eggs are sticky, so it is also possible bed bugs could find their way home with you even if they weren't seen during your stay. When you return home, unpack your suitcase outdoors and immediately throw clothes in the dryer on high heat. Vacuum the outside and insides of luggage and bags and take another look for signs of bed bugs before bringing anything into the home.

***Call us to discuss the additional services we perform to ensure any infestation can be found sooner and addressed promptly.***

- **We perform bed bug inspections for consumers. The cost for a standard 1 family residence is \$175 plus tax.**
- **We can also come out on a \$100 plus tax service call and offer placement of SenSci lures and monitors in your residence at that time for further peace of mind at a cost of \$15 plus tax per unit. We recommend 2 units per room. We can also treat your suitcases with NuVan strips on a service call for \$15 plus tax per suitcase.**
- **The standard cost for bed bug treatment is \$300 plus tax per room. Thus, when infestations are discovered sooner, your affected areas may be less resulting in lower treatment costs.**