



# Bed Bug Fast Facts

## What Are Bed Bugs?

- Bed bugs are small, flat, reddish-brown insects that feed on the blood of people and animals.
- They are about the size of an apple seed and can hide in tiny cracks and crevices.
- Bed bugs do not fly or jump but can crawl quickly.

## Where Do Bed Bugs Live?

- They can be found in:
  - Mattresses, box springs, and bed frames.
  - Furniture, curtains, and carpets.
  - Cracks in walls, floors, and baseboards.
- Bed bugs are often found in places where people sleep or sit for long periods, like homes, hotels, and buses.

## How Do Bed Bugs Spread?

- They hitchhike on luggage, clothing, furniture, and other items.
- Bed bugs can move between rooms or apartments through walls and floors.

## Signs of a Bed Bug Infestation

- Red, itchy bites on your skin, often in a line or cluster.
- Tiny blood stains or dark spots (bed bug droppings) on sheets or mattresses.
- Shed skins or tiny white eggs in cracks and seams of furniture.
- A musty, sweet smell in heavily infested areas.

## How to Prevent Bed Bugs

- Check second-hand furniture, luggage, and clothing for bed bugs before bringing them into your home.
- Use protective covers for mattresses and box springs.
- Reduce clutter in your home to eliminate hiding spots.
- Wash and dry bedding, curtains, and clothing on high heat regularly.

## What If You Have Bed Bugs?

- Clean bedding, curtains, and clothing in hot water and dry them on high heat.
- Vacuum your home thoroughly, especially cracks and crevices. Dispose of the vacuum bag immediately.
- Seal cracks in walls and floors to limit hiding spots.
- Contact a licensed pest control professional for treatment.