

# FACT SHEET Bed Bugs

#### **Bed Bugs in Our Environment**

Beg bugs are a public health pest that has plagued us for many centuries. These parasites thrive in human environments as they feed on blood. Bed bugs are transported into your property unwittingly via luggage, backpacks, and suitcases. Once settled, the population grows quite rapidly, working their way through cavities in the walls and floors.

From there, they conceal themselves in sofas, picture frames, beds, curtains, radios, smoke detectors, behind baseboards, between sheets of loose wallpaper, and more. Tell-tale signs of bed bugs include droppings (dark patches on sheets, skins or cuticles) and/or tiny bloodstains or spots on sheets.

### **Bed Bug Control**

Once the room is prepared, the technician will inspect the affected rooms, vacuum the infested areas, and apply a mist spray and/or dust application where they see fit. This usually includes floor surfaces, edges, cracks and joints in walls, furniture and fixtures, bed head and bed base, mattress and other upholstery.

### **Precautions Before and After Treatment**

Prior to our treatment, we recommend that all bed linen, mattress protectors, pillows etc. are removed and placed directly into a plastic bag for transfer to the laundry. Do not forget to check any drapes/curtains, looking carefully at the top tapes and folds. Do not leave bagged items for long, but wash as soon as possible in hot water (must exceed 60°C).

We also recommend vacuuming thoroughly (around edges, fixtures, around/in mattress crease/edges). The floor area in general should also be vacuumed.

After the treatment, the room needs to be well ventilated and cannot be re-occupied until treatment has settled and dried. Clean only minimally for the first 10-14 days to prevent removal of residual treatment. Do not vacuum and do not clean closer than 15cm from floor edges.

### How to Get the Best From Your Treatment

- Be wary when purchasing used furniture (particularly bedding) and inspect it thoroughly before taking it home.
- Never leave open suitcases lying around on the floor when you are on vacation.
- Do not store your suitcase close to the bed in hotel rooms. Inspect your suitcase before bringing it into the house when you return from vacation.
- Wash your clothes at a temperature of at least 60°C after returning from vacation.

### What to Expect After Your Treatment

Follow ups visit may be required to inspect and/or re-treat.

### What to Look For





**A.** Bed Bug 1-5mm in size



**D.** Bed Bug in mattress seam



**E.** Bed Bug after feeding



C. Bed Bug bites



F. Bed Bug droppings

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