

BED BUG Information Guide

What Are Bed Bugs?

They are small insects that generally feed on human blood. They are active at night when one is asleep. Adults are flat and about the size of an apple seed, reddish brown in color and they move rather quickly. They often hide within the cracks and crevices of furniture, clothing, seams of mattresses, spring boards, behind wall pictures and if there is a severe infestation they can move into alarm clocks, radios, phones lamps. Their bites become itchy and form into a welt. An adult bed bug can generally live for several months without a meal.

How do I get Bed Bugs

Generally bed bugs are transported into your home unknowingly in luggage, furniture clothing or by hitching on to your cloths. They travel and can enter your apartment from a neighboring infested apartment. They can travel through small cracks and crevices within the wall voids.

How do I detect and inspect for Bed Bugs

Using a powerful flashlight you should inspect crevices, cracks and the headboards of your mattress and box spring, in and around night stands. You should also inspect the seams of your mattress and look for dried blood stains. You will also notice itchy welts on exposed areas of your body.

How can I get rid of Bed Bugs

You should clean bedding, linens, curtains, rugs carpets and cloths in hot water and dry them within a hot commercial dryer. You should soak your cloths in warm water for several hours using lots of detergent before rinsing.

Vacuuming mattresses bed frames furniture, carpets and rugs, cracks and crevices on a regular basis.

You should cover your mattress and box spring with a waterproof zippered mattress cover labeled for dust mites. All cracks and crevices within your home should be repaired.

Should I Use Pesticides

You should always contact a professional and reputable pest control company. Never purchase pesticides from your local hardware. You may cause more harm to yourself and the occupants by using these products, especially if you have not been trained.

Helpful Hints

Be sure to always use a licensed exterminator, ask to see their license and check with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Your exterminator should incorporate non chemical methods into their pest management plan utilizing vacuums and commercial steamers. It generally takes at least two visits per apartment to correctly and effectively rid your apartment of bed bugs. Also please note one should never award a company an exterminating job of any sort if they provide a price quote over the phone. All pest scenarios are different and a full inspection of your apartment or facility is required before you receive a price.

