

BED BUG FACTS

Bed bug eggs are pearl white and are the size of a speck of dust, (1mm) their newly hatched nymphs are translucent until their first feeding. Adult bed bugs are brownish-red in color, have a flattened appearance and are just less than ¼ inch long. Bed bugs are nocturnal, which means they feed on your blood at night while you sleep and hide during the day. How does a person get bed bugs? Bed bugs are excellent hitchhikers. Most often, they are introduced into a home in luggage, on clothing or secondhand furniture etc. Bed bugs are a particular problem for hotels, motels, and apartments, or anywhere turnover of occupants is frequent. Many times a bed bug infestation can be traced back to travel. Once bed bugs are introduced months can pass before they are discovered. In that time, each adult female will deposit 1-5 eggs a day, up to 500 in a lifetime. Those eggs can be dispersed and “glued” into place randomly throughout an infested room, not just at a nest site. The adults live not only in beds, but also in furniture, cracks and crevices, wall voids, and behind moldings. They also live under carpet, on drapes, in clothing, wall hangings, and stored items. Bed bugs can also migrate from one room or apartment unit to another through pipe and wire runs, also through wall and ceiling voids. Bed bugs typically travel up to 20 feet to feed, but can go much farther. A bed bug can go for months even up to a year between feedings. Not everyone bitten will have a reaction to the feeding of a bed bug. Some people may develop an immediate reaction for others it may take hours. Therefore, it can be very difficult to pinpoint the cause of the reaction. All the above information combined lends to the difficulty in finding small infestations. Unfortunately, in most cases, once discovered, bed bugs have been present for months. Leaving a difficult task ahead, a task best left to the pest professionals at **ARAB.**



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