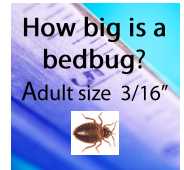


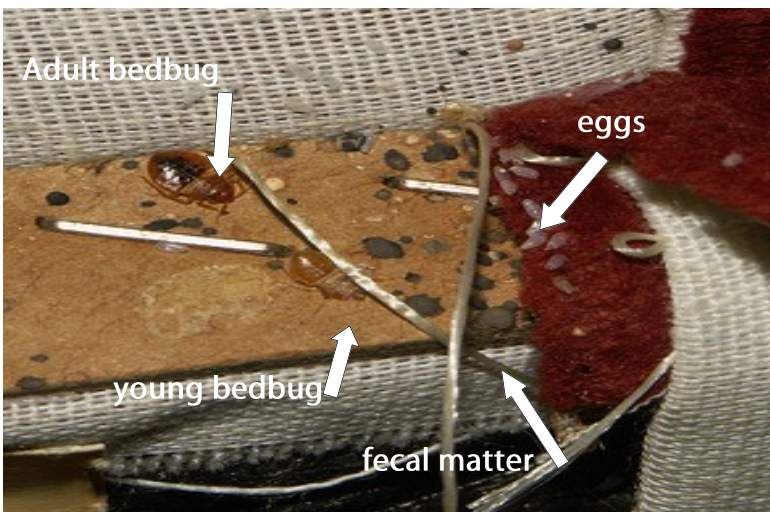


Bedbugs: What should you look for?

The first step in fighting bedbugs is to make a positive identification. The treatment for other pests with similar symptoms (like fleas or scabies) is very different than for bedbugs. Tackling a bedbug infestation is a major commitment, so you should be certain you are dealing with the right pest. A professional should make the call, but **here is what to look for:**



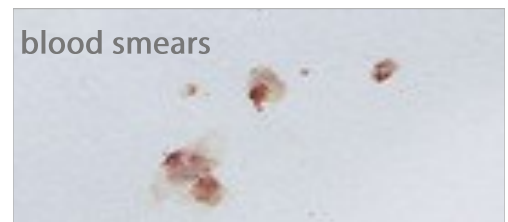
Live bedbugs- An adult is about the size of an apple seed (3/16th" or 2.5 mm long.) They are flat, oval-shaped and have six legs and feelers on their head. Their color is light brown and translucent until they feed on blood. Then, they are plump and reddish brown. Keep in mind that young bedbugs are smaller and harder to see.



Bedbugs crawl fast, but **they don't jump or fly.** They like to hide during the day and come out at night to feed on a sleeping host, but they can also be active during the day if the infestation is major. They often hide in your bed, especially in creases around mattress stitching. They also like couches and chairs, clothes, drawers or behind baseboards. Bedbugs may "play dead" if you uncover a hiding place, but beware: bedbugs may look dead, but they can live for months in hibernation without a meal.

Eggs- Bedbugs hatch from tiny eggs that stick to surfaces. They are so small that they are hard to see, but the eggs look like grains of salt (about 1/16th inch or less than 1 mm long.) Once hatched, baby bedbugs go through five smaller stages before adulthood, growing larger after each blood meal. Look for tiny dried-out shells left behind after they grow and shed their old skins.

Fecal matter- After feeding, bedbugs leave behind black feces that looks like poppy seeds or tiny mud spots. You should be suspicious of used items that are stained with tiny black spots or streaks. Even if you see no bedbugs, they may be hiding or their eggs may be left behind. Remember, they could live a year without eating.



Brown spots or small blood smears- Look on your sheets or pillow where you may have crushed a bedbug in your sleep. When they have eaten, they are easy to squash.

Bites- You may have red or itchy bumps where they bite, but some people have no allergic reaction and won't notice anything.



Help us control bedbugs and keep them gone:

- Make sure bedbugs have no place to hide in your apartment so treatments can succeed.
- SHA Pest Control has the right treatment tools. Don't use your own sprays or chemicals.
- Think twice before letting used furniture into your home- it might carry bedbugs.

Bedbug control is a long-term commitment. Thank you for your cooperation!

See a bedbug?
Ask the office for pest control.



Actual size 3/16"
(like an apple seed)