

Bed bug prevention tips

for tenants



Check all used or rented furniture for bed bugs.

Bed bugs are excellent stowaways, meaning that they can hide in the seams or cracks of furniture and not be seen easily.

Do not bring bed frames, mattresses, box springs, or any upholstered furniture found on the street or in an alley into your home.

Furniture that is discarded on the street may be infested with bed bugs.

All second-hand clothing should be washed and dried on the hot settings.

Bed bugs or their eggs may be hidden in the seams, cuffs, or other parts of clothing.

If you may have been around bed bugs (e.g., while travelling), wash and dry your clothing on the hot settings when you get home (or keep your clothing in a sealed plastic bag until you can wash and dry it). Also inspect your suitcase.

Bed bugs may be on your clothing or items and you may be bringing them back to your home.

Keep your unit free of clutter.

A unit with lots of clutter provides bed bugs with lots of places to hide.

When staying at a hotel or a friend's house, check the bed and behind the headboard for signs of bed bugs.

If you find bed bugs, ask for another room or find other accommodations so you do not take bed bugs home with you.



Left: a bed bug has a flat body when it has not fed.

Right: after a bed bug has fed, it is a dark red colour and fattens up.

Adult bed bugs are about 1 cm (3/8 inch) long.