



## Discount Pest Control

# Bed Bug Inspection and Preparation Sheet

### How do I know if I have bed bugs?

This is a tough one. It can be hard to tell if you've got them or not, because they are pretty small, only come out for very short periods, and because they are pretty good at hiding. First off, you should look for some key signs.

Waste - Bed bugs create a lot of waste, and that is harder to hide than they are. It can consist of dark spots on your mattress (which can be blood, feces, etc.) dead skin, eggs, dead bed bugs, etc. You may find it inside your mattress, in the box springs, or in the linens. It looks like this:



2) Bites - You should be seeing little red bites on you without really knowing why. People rarely catch bed bugs in the act - they come out when you are asleep, and only bite for a short period. Also, like many bugs, you cannot feel the bite until a few minutes after it happens. The bites are very hard to identify - most doctors generally can't tell you for sure what they're from just by looking at them.

3) Hiding places - Look in all the key spots where they could hide. This means the mattress and around it, folds in the linens, curtains, and nearby furniture. Look for the waste or dark spots. You probably won't see live ones, but they look like little mini-cockroaches.

## How to Get Ready for Your Bed Bug Service Visit

Before technicians can treat your home, you must prepare your home for service. Here's how:

### Strip your beds

Remove all sheets, blankets, mattress covers, pillowcases, etc. from your beds and wash, fold and place them in plastic garbage bags. Do not put them back on the bed until the evening after pest control service has been completed.



Strip your beds of sheets, blankets, mattress covers, etc.

A cluttered closet makes it impossible to control bed bugs

Photos © Pinto & Associates

### Remove everything from bedroom and hall closets

Your closets must be empty. Empty all dresser and night stand drawers. Take everything out of all furniture near the beds. Remove all clothing, toys, boxes, etc. from bedroom floors. Place items in the living room.

### Wash ALL clothing, towels, and other linens

VERY IMPORTANT!!! Place the clean items inside plastic storage bins or plastic garbage bags. Store them in the living room until after treatment. Vacuum floors, furniture, and inside closets, dresser drawers, and bed stands. Also vacuum mattresses and box springs. Dispose of vacuum bag.

### Provide access for pest control technician

Make sure the technician can get into all closets. If possible, move bedroom furniture away from walls so there is a 3 foot space between the furniture and walls.

### Avoid contact with insecticide until dry

Make sure there are no animals or people in the apartment during treatment AND for at least 2 hours afterward (check with the pest control technician for the exact time).

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