Good Night, Sleep Tight, Don’t Let The Bed Bugs Bite.
Bed Bug History

- Infestations common before WWII
- Improvements in hygiene and widespread use of DDT nearly wiped them out in US
- However, remained prevalent in other regions of the world
- Recent years they have made a comeback in the US
Bed Bugs

- First instar 1/32” long
- Adults 1/4” long
- Reddish - brown
- Oval, flattened body
- Piercing – sucking mouthparts
Which one is the bed bug?
Bed Bug Biology

- Female bed bugs lay up to 5 eggs per day in secluded areas; up to 500 in lifetime
- Eggs are tiny, white, and flask shaped
- Five molts before reaching maturity
- Development may be completed in a month under favorable conditions (80°-90°F)
- Bed bugs are very resilient
Bed Bug Life Cycle

**Note:** Bed bugs take 3-10 minutes to complete feeding.

1. **Egg** (1 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

2. **First Stage Larva** (1.5 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

3. **Second Stage Larva** (2 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

4. **Third Stage Larva** (2.5 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

5. **Fourth Stage Larva** (3 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

6. **Fifth Stage Larva** (4.5 mm long)
   - Takes a blood meal then molts.

7. **Adult** (5.5 mm long)
   - Take repeated blood meals over several weeks.
   - Females lay up to 5 eggs per day continuously.

*Life Cycle of the Bed Bug*
*Cimex lectularius*
Bed Bug Life Cycle
Bed Bug Behavior

- Flattened bodies allow them to hide in tiny crevices
- Tend to congregate together
- Heavy infestations tend to have a musty odor
- Bed bugs active mainly at night
  - may travel up to 100 feet
  - engorgement takes about 3-10 minutes
- Bed bug bite symptoms vary among individuals
- Leave “blood spots” after feeding
Bed Bug Bites
Bed Bug Behavior

- Bed bugs find their food based on heat and other non-visual clues.
- They will feed on other mammals if humans are not available.
- A well-fed adult may survive up to a year or more without feeding.
Controlling Infestations

- Challenging pests
- Thorough inspections necessary
- Complete treatments needed; follow-ups are recommended
- Need cooperation from owners and occupants
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How to Prepare for Bed Bug Treatment

- Clear rooms and closets of all clutter
- Strip beds and lean mattresses and box springs up against wall
- Bedding and clothing out to be washed before replacing
- All furniture needs to be away from walls
Bed Bug Treatment
FAQ’s

- Where do bed bugs come from?
- Do bed bugs feed on pets?
- Do bed bugs transmit any diseases?
- May residents continue to be bitten even after treatment?
Questions???