



Asking questions is the very best way to become educated about the bed bug control for your situation. Please read over some commonly asked questions and if you don't find what you're looking for, call us at 219 545 8786.

I'm being bitten by something, but from everything I've read I cannot find any tell tale signs of bed bugs, what gives?

It may be probable that it isn't bed bugs. However if you have been recently exposed, your problem may be what is referred to as a low level bed bug infestation. Although not entirely great news, it is better than having a high level infestation or allowing it to become so. When only one bed bug can lay 1-5 eggs daily, quick reaction to the problem is crucial. What may be occurring is that your environment must have been recently exposed to a bed bug and the breeding and feeding have begun. The key problem is that if you or your pest technician cannot find evidence, your bed may be treated but whatever the source the infestation originated from, may be hatching eggs. Then new generations will start to cause problems. Our canine handling team can narrow down infested areas.

How did I come to get bed bugs?

This is a great question but to narrow the answer would not be simple. The alarming fact is that bed bugs are efficient hitchhikers by nature. Exposure can come from an infinite number of places we come in contact with daily - a fantastic trip you just took, that fabulous piece of furniture found curbside, your work, a college student coming home, a theater, a gym, riding on the subway and the list could go on and on.

Your best defense is offense. Find out what to look for when traveling (like fecal spotting and cast skins). Do not accept donations unless thoroughly inspected and personally cleaned.

Separate items that are suspected of infestation by bagging/sealing for further assessment. Keep in mind high risk areas; those very transient areas that come in contact with person after person from those hub points of persons traveling, or to where people congregate for lengths of time. We promise you can and should come out of your home to enjoy life.

My house isn't dirty and I have bedbugs, why?

This is a common notion that bugs exist where dirt is but not with this particular pest. Bedbugs can easily be found in luxury resorts just as easily as anywhere else; they just need a warm-blooded host in order to survive. But more importantly, clutter should be eliminated. Clutter provides an extreme disadvantage to exterminating this pest because of the multiple hiding places that are available.

What about home remedies and over-the-counter methods?

Be very careful of those promises. Time is money and what you save in dollars could "bite" you over time. The bed bug thrives by hatching more colonies, impacting the quantity and penetration of the infestation with each new generation being hatched. Take the right course of action by partnering with us to find bed bugs fast, so your pest technician can effectively reduce infestation up to proper elimination.

This whole notion is freaking me out, should I sleep on my couch (elsewhere)?

It is our firm suggestion that you do not want to sleep in other areas of your home because likely this will cause spreading to other areas of your home or to other places. Bed bugs will travel for a blood meal and essentially hide close by the new sleeping place of the host, possibly leaving you with more infested furniture/places in your home. You should look into products like furniture leg interceptors and furniture covers to provide some relief.

What if I am feeling too embarrassed to talk to somebody, even friends and family?

The real problem is, with this on your mind, you'll not get the rest you need which can cause fatigue and irritability. Essentially, this can affect the way you filter information about how to handle this problem. In some cases physical and psychological difficulties may occur. Physical, because bites are irritating and if scratched, infections may occur. Psychological, because the tendency is to stay secluded and this can make you feel alone and vulnerable. What you'll want to keep in mind is that you have bed bug relief professionals that you can partner with to implement an effective pest management plan, including canine scent detection as the means of finding areas of your home that are affected.

What does a pest control exterminator visual inspection entail versus the dogs?

The process of an exterminator can be quite disruptive. In order for a human technician to know where an infestation is they must see it. Carpet and area rugs must be pulled back, baseboards, wall hangings and electrical outlets must be carefully looked around and behind, mattresses and sofas must be undressed, moved, tilted and turned, bed frames may need to be dismantled, and suspect items surrounding the sleeping area must be looked into very thoroughly (and this does not eliminate other scenarios).

Even the best highly trained technician will not be able to inspect a normal bedroom setting in less than a few hours time. Unfortunately you shouldn't rule out the technician who will just check a mattress (without checking the box spring) and claim they have done a thorough inspection. With a Detective Bed Bug canine handling team, a bedroom can be inspected with in a few minutes time with greater accuracy, less disruption and more discretion. See our web page for more information about what to expect during a canine inspection.

My pest control technician can't confirm the presence of bed bugs, why?

This is quite common with low level infestation because the hiding places are so secretive and the telling signs of fecal matter and cast skins are minor at this point of infestation; however bed bugs are coming out for a feeding approximately every 5 days. This is where typical pest inspections get derailed. Even if you have collected a sampling to confirm with your pest technician, if they cannot find where the breeding action is taking place, it is difficult to treat.

Additionally, pesticides may pose a risk for persons that may be highly sensitive, and treating liberally with pesticides is not an effective pest management plan nor does it provide a better guarantee. The cost of a labor and time intensive inspection that may not yield a finding will probably not yield an efficient course of action. Partnering with our Detective Bed Bug canine handling team greatly increases the accuracy of detection and greatly reduces time spent for your pest technician so treatment can begin more quickly and specifically.

Call us at 219 545 8786 to speak with us about your situation.



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If a canine scent detection inspection confirms the presence of bed bugs, what next?

It is advisable to consult with a highly trained licensed pest control service knowledgeable in proper bed bug eradication. It is important that the company you choose is qualified and experienced and has appropriate information to reassure you of this. Be wary of the "cowboy" approach and claims that eradication can happen in one trip and an inspection that isn't in-depth enough to find the harborage sites.

There are pros and cons to treatment options given each unique infestation situation. Some brief descriptions below may help you begin your research.

Heat treatments where the room(s) is heated to a regulated degree to kill all bed bugs can be very effective. To choose this remedy, you'll want to be sure that your infestation was not caused by exposure to another environment that can reintroduce the bed bug infestation back into your environment.

Chemical pesticide treatments as applied by a professional pest operator should be effective when applied strategic to the bugs biology and habits, however multiple treatments may be necessary. The downside is that improper or overuse application may cause the spread of the bugs to out-of-the-way areas where breeding can restart.

There are freezing techniques and other monitors emerging on to the marketplace. Bed Bug Central is an education website powered by knowledgeable pest control experts and pest control professionals in the United States who recognized the need for a reliable and factual bed bug resource on the web. You can visit them at www.bedbugcentral.com.

Look at your furniture and walls from the bed bug perspective. Barriers can reduce the movement of the bed bug as they cannot chew through thinly applied caulk lines. Apply to base board and electric wall plates and furniture joints to minimize harborage areas. Other actions you can take on your own can be found on our bed bug reference sheet about laundering, vacuuming, etc.

No matter which treatment options you choose, you should place bed bug approved covers on mattresses and box springs to trap any activity not readily visible so that bugs will starve in place. Further, the cover doesn't allow exposure to seams where bed bugs like to hide. There are bed bug supplier websites such as www.usbedbugs.com that can provide products from mattress covers and furniture leg interceptors to dissolvable laundry bags.

Please call us with any more questions. We can be reached at 219 545 8786 or detectivebedbug@gmail.com.



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