

# Let's Beat the Bug!

## *Bed Bug Basics*

- Bed bugs are a small insect, about the size of an apple seed. Adult bed bugs are flat, oval and reddish-brown in color.
- Bed bugs feed on human blood and can live for up to a year without a meal. They are usually active at night when people are sleeping.
- Some people do not react when bitten by a bed bug. Others who do react have a small bump or a large itchy welt depending on the severity of their reaction. Marks from these bites may appear in hours or days after being bitten. Bites usually occur on skin that is exposed during sleep and sometimes occur in lines on the skin.
- If you think you have bed bugs check for the bugs, blood stains, droppings, eggs and shed skins
  - Where you sit and where you sleep
  - In mattresses, box springs, bed frames and bedding
  - In cracks and crevices in bedroom furniture, floor boards, base boards, windows, door frames and electrical outlets

Remember, bed bugs are very small, flat and fast.

**For more information contact the bed bug hotline at 612-624-2200, [bedbugs@umn.edu](mailto:bedbugs@umn.edu), or visit [www.bedbugs.umn.edu](http://www.bedbugs.umn.edu)**

## The MN Bed Bug Hotline

The bed bug hotline at the University of Minnesota can:

- Provide information on bed bugs
- Suggest ways to reduce the number of bed bugs in your home
- Provide advice on selecting a Structural Pest Control Company
- Recommend steps you can use to avoid bed bugs in your everyday life and while traveling.



[www.bedbugs.umn.edu](http://www.bedbugs.umn.edu)



612-624-2200  
1-855-644-2200



Search: Lets Beat the Bug



@letsbeatthebug

If you think you have bed bugs and want the bugs identified catch one on a piece of sticky tape or put it in a clear plastic bag and mail to:

Bed Bug Hotline  
Rm 219 Hodson Hall  
1980 Folwell Ave  
St. Paul, Mn 55108



Make sure you include your name and contact information.

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