



# Bed Bug Information for Tenants

Anyone can get bed bugs and they are challenging pests to control. Multi-unit dwellings, including hotels, apartments, hostels, shelters, student residences and rooming houses can have bed bug infestations. An integrated pest management strategy offers the best method of control. Use of a licensed pest control operator is recommended for pesticide treatments. Cooperation between tenants and landlords is necessary to prevent and control infestations.

To prevent and control bed bugs, tenants can:

**Prevent infestations.** Be cautious about taking in second hand furniture or beds and inspect for bed bugs. Bring second-hand clothing home in sealed plastic bags and launder immediately. Inspect rooms for signs of bed bugs when you travel and do not place suitcases on the bed or floor.

**Do regular housecleaning.** Clean up clutter to reduce the number of places bed bugs can hide. Routinely vacuum floors, carpets, upholstered furniture and mattresses.

**Inform your landlord** if you have a problem with bed bugs.

**Follow instructions about preparing your unit** before pest control treatment. Proper preparation will help ensure treatment is effective. Vacuum thoroughly and dispose of vacuum bag in a sealed plastic bag. Remove belongings from dressers, drawers, closets, shelves and cupboards. Launder clothes and linens in hot water and place in a hot dryer and store clean items in sealed bags until treatment is completed. Remove furniture away from wall and provide access to all baseboards.

**Monitor for signs of bed bugs** after pest control treatment.



Courtesy of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

