Bed Bugs
What are the Health Risks
Bed bugs transmit disease.
A study published in the April 1st, 2009 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association concluded that bed bugs do **NOT**:

- Transmit pathogens that spread communicable diseases
- Pose a serious health risk to humans
Bed bugs problems are on the rise.
Orkin surveyed our branch locations in June 2014.

- Bed bug calls grew average of 50% to 75% year-over-year
- Some locations reported 100% to 200% increases year-over-year
- Bed bugs have been reported in all 50 states

![Pie chart showing distribution of bed bug infestations by type of property: Single-family residences (30%), Apartments (22%), Hotels (26%), Motels (12%), Other (10%).]
The “Perfect Storm”

- Continued world travel
- Resistance to products
- Extent of infestation
- Zero room for error
FACT or FICTION

Adult bed bugs are very small and difficult to see with the naked eye.
- Adults are about 1/4” long
- Oval shaped, like an apple seed
- Thin (thickness of three sheets of stacked paper)
The Common Bed Bug

- Brown in color
- Reddish brown after a feeding
- Must feed on blood
- Attracted to heat, CO$_2$ and body odor
The Common Bed Bug

- Takes a blood meal in 3-10 min.
- Feeds every few days if hosts available
- Can survive for extended periods without a blood meal
The Common Bed Bug

- Often excretes part of previous meal after feeding, leaving telltale stains
- Stains are dark brown to black
Bed Bugs are found only on the bed.
FICTION

- Common name is misleading
- Most often discovered in bed
- Hides in cracks, crevices, behind baseboards and other areas
thinking of them ONLY as Bed Bugs!!!
Lack of visible bed bug bites means no bed bugs.
Most people do NOT notice getting bit and do NOT react to the INITIAL bites.
Study Results

- 1400 plus Volunteers
- 3.8% Immediate Reaction
- 1.1% Delayed (18 d)
Take Home

- Less than 5% of volunteers reacted to their supposed first bite.
- Sensitive to other bites and skin irritations
- Second study. Repeat feeding
Bed bugs are a sign of unsanitary conditions
Almost always introduced by man.

- Luggage
- Clothing
- Furniture
- Personal belongings
Two bed bugs can’t create that big of a problem.
= 1 Bed Bug
= 10 Eggs

Day 1
2 Bed Bugs
Day 3
Day 14
2 Bed Bugs 130 Eggs
Day 15
2 Bed Bugs 130 Eggs
Day 60
152 Bed Bugs 130 Eggs
Day 90
302 Bed Bugs 1,040 Eggs
Zero Room for Error

Egg to adult is about 21 days

- Reproduce quickly
- Each female produces 1-5 eggs per day for an average of about 100 over her life span
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