

Bed Bugs

What do they look like?

Adult bed bugs are oval shaped, flat and are approximately 6mm long. They are pale brown when unfed but reddish brown to mahogany when full of blood. Nymphs or young bugs are almost colourless, becoming brownish as they mature. Their legs are well developed and are able to crawl up vertical surfaces, such as wood, paper or plaster. However they are unable to crawl up polished surfaces.

Where do they live?

Bed bugs are mostly found in areas such as floor cracks, underneath carpets, behind loose wallpaper, behind wall pictures, in loose skirting boards and door frames and also in the seams of bed mattresses.

What do they eat?

Bed bugs only feed on blood and mainly in darkness. Human blood is preferred, however they can survive on blood from rabbits, rodents and so on. Bed bugs are able to survive without feeding for up to 12 months.

Can bed bugs harm us?

It is not thought that bed bugs transmit any serious illnesses to human beings, but they can bite which may cause irritation and loss of sleep and impact on general health.

How do you treat and control bed bugs?

Routine washing of all bedding and clothing should be carried out. This should be followed by drying in a tumble dryer at normal temperature to kill any bed bugs or eggs present.

Insecticide can be applied to cracks and crevices where bed bugs could be hiding such as skirting bards, flooring, bed frames and in the seams of mattresses.

Pesticide treatments - always follow the instructions stated on the label.



Knowsley Pest Control Service:

We can provide a service, however a charge will be incurred.

Commercial pest control companies are listed in the Yellow Pages and Thompson's Local Directory.