



**City and County of San Francisco**  
Department of Public Health  
Environmental Health Services



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[www.sfdph.org/dph/EH/Housing/BedBugs.asp](http://www.sfdph.org/dph/EH/Housing/BedBugs.asp)

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## SRO Hotel Managers Bed Bugs Control Guidelines



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## What Are Bed Bugs?

Bed bugs are tiny insects that feed on the blood of humans, pets, birds and other animals. Bed bugs are parasites. Adult bed bugs are ¼” long (one fourth of an inch). They have no wings and do not fly. Their bodies are flat before eating (blood meal) and round afterwards. The newly born bed bugs are called “nymphs” and their tiny, white bodies are almost too small to see.

### Appearance



Bed Bugs Nesting in a Mattress



Adult Bed Bug

### How Do I Know My Tenants Have Bed Bugs?

Bedbugs leave itchy welts at the bite location. You or your tenants may see live or dead bed bugs, blood or fecal stains on the mattress, sheets or pillow cases.

### How Do Bed Bugs Get Into Buildings?

Bedbugs get carried from place to place when people expose themselves or their belongings such as: luggage, clothing, furniture, or bedding, in areas that are infested with bed bugs. Bed bugs also can come from collecting items left on the street or used items of unknown origins, such as used furniture or second hand clothes.

## Prevention: How Can I Remove Bed Bugs From My Building?

1. **Respond** immediately to all tenant complaints within 48 hours.
2. **Consult** a licensed pest control operator to inspect, identify and treat all bed bugs infested rooms and common areas. Ask pest control operator to inspect adjacent rooms and treat if infested.
3. **Make sure** that the tenants prepare their rooms for the bed bug treatment (see washing instructions in Tenant’s Guide to Bed Bugs Prevention # 3-6).
4. **Treat** all cracks and crevices in the walls, baseboards, window sills, bed frames, box springs, closet, furniture, etc., and caulk all cracks/crevices.
5. **Replace** all torn mattresses and box springs.
6. **Treat** all contaminated items and mattresses before discarding.
7. **Provide** treatments once every two weeks until no new signs of bed bugs are found.
8. **Vacuum** all dead bed bugs after each treatment and immediately afterwards, seal the vacuum bag inside a plastic bag and discard into an outdoor trash receptacle.
9. **Completely** seal all items in plastic bags prior to removal from infested rooms.
10. **Plastic bags.** Provide plastic bags to tenants during bed bugs treatment.
11. **Glue board.** Ask your Pest Control Operator to set up glue boards under bed and corners of room to monitor bed bugs.

**For further assistance contact the Department of Public Health at:  
Main: (415) 252-3800**