



Ortho® Home Defense Max® BEDBUG Killer Bed Bug Myth VS. Fact

1. Myth: You can't see bed bugs

Fact: Bed bugs are very visible and measure 3mm-5mm in length. They are a deep red color after feeding and otherwise have a brownish tone. If you have an infestation, you will likely see the bugs themselves, although not crawling on the wall or floor like a spider.

2. Myth: If I throw away my infested mattress, I will no longer have bed bugs

Fact: They may be called “bed” bugs, but they do not limit their residence to only beds. They can occupy any crack or crevice in a room. Be sure to check the mattress, headboard, frame, nightstand and anything within 5 feet of the bed.

3. Myth: You can only get bed bugs if you live in a dirty environment

Fact: This is the most dangerous myth of all. Bed bugs do not live amongst filth; they live near warmth and carbon dioxide. Increased travel and vintage trending are the main culprits in this recent bed bug epidemic.

4. Myth: Bed bugs are NOT resistant to pesticides

Fact: In the 1950s, bed bug populations were easily controlled with the use of DDT but that product has been banned by the EPA leaving few options. Since then new products are being tested as a solution and it has been found that most strains of bed bugs have developed resistance to some active ingredients. Ortho® Home Defense Max® BEDBUG Killer utilizes an effective active ingredient that kills bed bugs on the spot.

5. Myth: One treatment is enough

Fact: Diagnosing the severity of a bed bug infestation is not easy to do. Rarely does it only require one application of any treatment before removing them for good. Bed bugs are extremely resilient and often times require multiple applications of any product—home use or professional.

6. Myth: Bed bugs transmit disease

Fact: Bed bugs bite, but they have not been found to transmit disease.

7. Myth: Bed bugs only come out at night

Fact: While bed bugs are in fact nocturnal, they are attracted to any source of warmth and carbon dioxide, and can appear and bite at anytime.

8. Myth: Bed bugs only live in the bed

Fact: Bed bugs can be found living in tufts and seams of mattresses and box springs, bed frames and headboards, nightstands, picture frames, lamp shades, baseboards, wallpaper and electrical outlets.

9. Myth: You can feel a bed bug biting you

Fact: You usually can not feel a biting bed bug due to its saliva containing an anesthetic. Bites from a bed bug are small, hard, swollen white welts on skin that are itchy, inflamed and red. Two people occupying the same space will react differently to interaction with bed bugs. Skin can show irritation immediately or take as long as 10 days to show signs of a bug bite. These bites can cause skin infections, scarring, anemia from blood loss, anxiety, stress, insomnia and emotional trauma. Bed bugs also feed on animals, both domestic and wild.

10. Myth: Bed bugs can fly

Fact: Bed bugs do not have wings and can not fly. They have six legs, two hollow feeding tubes and antennae.

11. Myth: If you move to a new residence, you will no longer have bed bugs

Fact: Until the infestation is controlled, the bed bug population in your personal belongings will not decrease. Bed bugs can travel in furniture, clothing, personal items and on their host (although this is rare). Anywhere you go, the bed bugs will follow.

12. Myth: It can't happen to me

Fact: Bed bugs DO and CAN happen to anyone. Be aware of your vintage purchases and surroundings when you travel. Ortho® Home Defense Max® BEDBUG Killer can help to provide peace of mind in the event of a bed bug infestation.