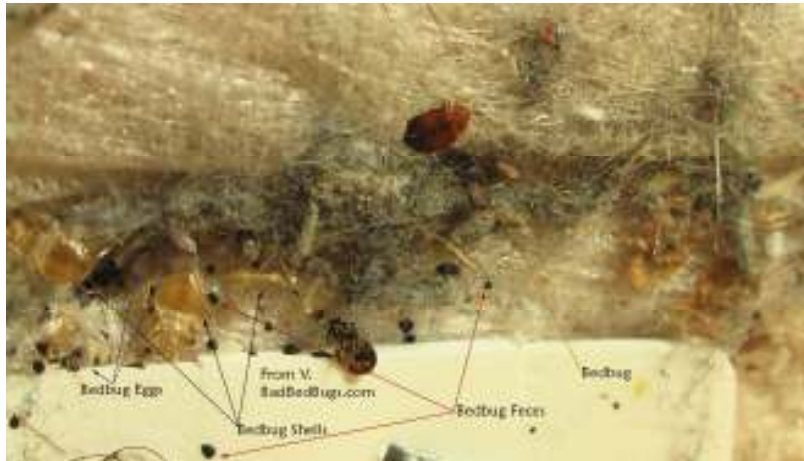


## Bed Bugs



- Check for tiny black spots (smaller than the size of poppy seeds) behind the headboard, translucent skins or actual bedbugs. Bed bug spots (fecal matter) are dark brown to black in color and stick to the surface. If it falls off, then it's not a bed bug spot. You can also take a wet towel and wipe the spot to see if it smears and if so, then it may be fecal matter.
- Check the bedside table or any other furniture or fixtures near the bed. Bedbugs don't like the light, so they'll be hiding in areas that are usually dark or have very low light.
- Are there shed skins – as the bed bug develops, it sheds the skin which looks like the bug. Also look for tiny white eggs (like rice) along the edge of the mattress.
- Other signs of bedbugs may include itching or a foul smell. The odor has been described a number of ways, most say it resembles spoiled raw beef, musty odor or a sweet odor such as fresh red raspberries.
- Just because the room or hotel is new does not mean it's free from bedbugs; bedbugs find rooms by riding on the cloths or luggage of others and may have been hitching a ride on the last occupant.

Bedbugs love gaps in just about everything, so check:

- behind baseboards
- around door and window casings
- around window sills and frames
- behind electrical and telephone switch plates
- between flooring and wall components
- where materials meet to form a gap
- around pipes (water, drain, electrical conduits)
- seams, creases, tufts, and folds of the mattress and box spring
- bed frames and head board
- under night stands and drawers
- storage units
- items such as furniture that may have hollow legs
- between upholstered furniture
- between the folds of drapery or curtains
- in your alarm clock

Source <http://www.badbedbugs.com/bedbug-checklist/>