HOW DO I KNOW IF I FOUND A BED BUG?
Santa Clara County Vector Control will identify specimens free of charge:
Monday-Friday 8:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Not open on holidays

RESOURCES:
California Department of Public Health
Phone: 1-916-558-1784
Website: http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/BedBugs.aspx

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Phone: 1-800-232-4636
Website: http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/

Environmental Protection Agency
Website: http://www2.epa.gov/bedbugs

EVICT UNWANTED ROOMMATES
The California Department of Public Health recommends that property owners hire a pest control company that is licensed by the California Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA).
**WHAT ARE BED BUGS?**
- Bed bugs (*Cimex lectularius*) are small blood-sucking insects that feed on birds and mammals, including humans.
- Adults are approximately the size of apple seeds (1/4”).

**APPEARANCE OF BED BUGS**
- Adults are approximately 1/4” and red to copper in color
- Immature bed bugs are smaller (~1/16”) and lighter in color
- After a bed bug feeds, its body swells and turns bright red, making it appear to be a different insect.

**ARE BED BUGS HARMFUL?**
- Bed bugs feed primarily on human blood, but are not known to transmit disease.
- An individual’s immune response can lead to itchy welts on the skin.
- Scratching welts can introduce bacteria and lead to a secondary infection.

**WHERE DO BED BUGS HIDE?**
- In crevices on headboards, nightstands, bedroom furniture.
- Behind pictures and moldings
- Among clutter such as piled books and papers
- Around pet sleeping areas
- You may also find evidence of their presence, such as small black or dark red bloodstains from crushed bed bugs or bed bug droppings.

**PREVENTING BED BUGS**
- Bed bugs cannot fly or jump. They move about on objects or by crawling.
- Before putting your things down in a hotel room, inspect cracks, crevices, box springs, sofas, chairs, headboards, nightstands, and picture frames.
- Before returning home from a trip, bag your washable travel belongings. Empty bag contents directly into a hot water wash and then a hot air dry cycle.

**LIFECYCLE OF BED BUGS**
- A bed bug goes through five nymphal stages before becoming an adult.
- All stages take a blood meal for nutrition.
- Adult bed bugs can live up to 10 months, and can survive for weeks to months without feeding.

*Pictures courtesy of the California Department of Public Health, unless otherwise indicated.*

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**Bed Bug Life Cycle**

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**Adult Bed Bugs on a Human Hand**

**Adult Next to a Nymph**

**Adult Next to a Penny**

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