

# PEST OF THE QUARTER

PRESENTED BY ORKIN



## BED BUGS

*Bed bugs are a growing problem and known to hitchhike on personal belongings, including clothing and luggage. Nocturnal in nature, bed bugs come out at night to feed on human blood.*

### WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

Bed bugs are small, flat, wingless insects about the size of an apple seed. They are reddish-brown in colour and appear swollen and red after a blood meal.

### WHY THEY'RE A THREAT

- Bed bugs are resilient. They can survive many months in cool conditions without feeding.
- Bed bugs are typically in hiding during the daytime, so it's difficult to spot them.
- Bed bugs can reproduce quickly, so it's critical to detect introductions and treat them as soon as possible.
- Bed bug bites can cause mild to serious skin reactions.

### SIGNS OF BED BUG ACTIVITY

Bed bugs are most commonly found in bedrooms on beds or furniture. They like to hide in soft furniture, mattresses, box springs, in cracks in the baseboards and behind headboards. Look for the following signs:

- live bed bugs
- cast skins (empty shells bed bugs shed as they grow)
- fecal smears (tiny, ink-coloured stains they leave behind)
- bed bug bites



### PREVENTION TIPS

Bed bugs cannot be completely prevented because people can bring them into their home at any time on their personal belongings, especially after travel. Early detection and treatment is the best way to reduce the chances of an infestation.

- Keep an eye out for potential hiding places (e.g., buckling wallpaper or carpet).
- Dry potentially infested bed linens, curtains or stuffed animals on the highest heat setting possible.
- Inspect all secondhand furniture before bringing it into your home.
- If bed bugs are suspected, contact your pest management professional immediately.

## TOP BED BUG CITIES

Orkin Canada recently released a list of the Top 25 Bed Bug Cities, based on the number of bed bug treatments Orkin Canada performed from July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. Is your city on the list? [Click here](#) to find out.

You can also find 100 facts about bed bugs in Orkin Canada's new [bed bug e-book](#).

For more information about bed bug detection and treatment, visit [www.orkincanada.ca/bed-bugs](http://www.orkincanada.ca/bed-bugs).