

Bed Bug Decision Tree

Bugs observed, visible bites, or large itchy welts on the skin

Inspect the sleeping area for signs of bed bugs. Look closely at mattress seams, pillow cases, bed frame, headboard, and tables near the bed (See IDPH Bed Bug Fact sheet). Are bugs present on bedding and other furniture?

Yes

No

Collect a sample

- Mail a close-up digital image to insects@iastate.edu
- Take the insect to your local extension office, or mail it to ISU directly (<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/iin/contact>)

The bite may be from another insect. Monitor your residence for future evidence of bed bugs.

Has the bug been positively identified as a bed bug?

Yes

Are you the Homeowner?

- Contact an experienced pest control expert .
- Routinely inspect affected areas.
- Vacuum furniture frequently.

Are you the Tenant?

- Contact your landlord
- Cooperate with your landlord and pest control experts.
- Routinely inspect affected areas.
- Vacuum furniture frequently

Are you the Landlord/Property Manager?

- Document complaints about bed bugs.
- Cooperate with pest control experts.
- Routinely inspect affected areas.
- Develop policies and/or lease requirements to prevent future bed bug issues.
- Educate tenants.

