

KIWICARE®

Technical Sheet

1-2-3 Bed Bug Control

How to Control Bed Bugs



Kiwicare 1-2-3 Bed Bug Control

What are Bed Bugs?

Bed Bugs are small (3-5mm), oval, wingless parasitic insects. When they have recently fed they will be reddish brown but when they have not fed for some time they will be pale and almost translucent. When just hatched from eggs bed bugs are tiny (only just visible to the naked eye) and pale.

Where are the Bed Bugs?

[Bed Bugs](#) hide in cracks and crevices during the day and come out at night to feed on blood. They are attracted to the people by body heat and carbon dioxide from our breath. They feed by using their hypodermic like mouth parts to penetrate the skin. The bed bugs inject 'saliva' containing anaesthetic to prevent you feeling the bite and anti-coagulant proteins to stop your blood clotting. It is these proteins that cause itchy inflammation reactions and reddened marks in many people.

The Bed Bug is wingless and therefore likely to be found near to where the host sleeps; in the mattress or bed frame, behind wallpaper, in spaces behind skirting and picture frames, seams of curtains, electrical sockets, under the edge of carpets and in furniture.

Because bed bugs can ingest up to seven times their own body weight in blood in one feed, bed bugs can survive long periods between feeding. After mating takes place, Bed Bugs will lay up to 200 eggs. The nymphs that hatch out are miniature versions of the adult; there is no larval stage. The nymphs will moult several times over a period of 6-18 months before becoming sexually mature adults.

Bed Bugs are notoriously difficult to get rid of because they hide so well. However, they can be eradicated with Kiwicare NO Bed Bugs products used with thoroughness and persistence.



Bed bugs hiding in the seams of a bed headboard. Note the black blood marks.

Directions

1. **Search** - Control of Bed Bugs requires very thorough examination and treatment of all the possible places where they might hide. Bed Bugs leave tell-tale blackened smears of blood which look like ticks made with a black pen. Spots of blood from the end of their proboscis may contact sheets after they finish feeding. This blood tends to show up on the woven sheets as small crosses of blood as the blood runs along the threads of the weft and the weave.
 - a. Check around seams of mattresses, bed base, bed heads, curtains and other furniture.
 - b. Check around the edges of carpets, behind skirting, edges of wallpaper and picture frames and in all other crevices within the room and adjacent rooms.
 - c. Electrical sockets are common places for bed bugs to infest. Ensure power is switched off when sockets are open.
 - d. Check sub floors and roof voids above and below affected areas.
 - e. Check rooms as above in all rooms adjacent to where evidence of Bed Bugs are found. **Note:** You cannot be too thorough.
 - f. Carefully collect all bedding from the affected rooms.
 - g. Place bedding in a plastic bag for transport to your washing machine, being careful to make sure no insects are dropped on the way.
 - h. If possible wash the clothes in a 'hot wash'. Clothing and bedding that cannot be washed in a hot wash can be bagged and placed in a freezer at -18°C for at least 24 hours.
 - i. Dismantle the bed and other furniture. Open cupboards and drawers and lean the bed mattress and bed base upright against a wall to improve exposure to the spray and vapour.



2. **Spray** – Spray all possible hiding places with Kiwicare [NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray](#)
 - a. Spray all areas where signs of infestation are found and all cracks, crevices and seams. This product contains a residual insecticide and an insect growth regulator (IGR) which will make females lay sterile eggs and help prevent young Bed Bugs reaching maturity.
 - b. Spray adjacent rooms even if no evidence of Bed Bugs has been found there.
 - c. Vacate the room/s and allow spray to dry for several hours.



3. Fumigate –

- a. Return to the room/s and release the [NO Bed Bugs/NO Bugs Super Fumigator](#).
- b. Follow the directions on the side of the fumigator. The fumigant produced will kill adult Bed Bugs and penetrate into areas that cannot be treated directly. It will also flush the bed bugs out of hiding places so that they come in contact with sprayed surfaces.
- c. Keep room/s sealed for as long as possible, up to 24 hours.
- d. Before re-occupying the room/s open doors and windows and let ventilate for at least 30 mins.
- e. After 1-2 days vacuum thoroughly and dispose of the vacuum bag.



See the [short video](#) on kiwicare.co.nz for more information on how to control bed bugs.

For Best Results

- To assist in eradicating Bed Bugs, use as part of the Kiwicare 1-2-3 Bed Bugs Control Programme.
- Ensure all pets have up to date veterinary flea treatment.
- If the Bed Bug infestation has become well established it may be necessary to repeat this treatment.
- Bed Bugs may take several hours from contact with the insecticide to die and it may be several days before full control of Bed Bugs is obtained. Eggs may still hatch and nymphs may appear for some weeks after treatment. However, the [NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray](#) should remain active for up to 6 months and kill nymphs and prevent them reaching sexual maturity.

Caution

- Never use [NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray](#) on pets and other animals.
- Keep all animals and children out of the area being treated during treatment and until all spray has dried completely.

How to Prevent Bed Bugs Returning

- If you have had an infestation it is important to continue preventative treatment for 3 months after the last sighting of a Bed Bug. Consider how the Bed Bugs could have been introduced; luggage? Boxes, furniture* or other material brought into the area from other premises? Check these and treat with NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray. Clear away clutter in rooms that might provide hiding places for Bed Bugs. Seal and fill cracks and crevices where Bed Bugs might find shelter, taking care not to leave spaces where they can hide more difficult to treat.
- **Bed Bugs in Luggage:** Bed Bugs are often accidentally transported in luggage and clothing. While travelling always check and shake clothes before packing. A light spray of luggage with [NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray](#) will help prevent your luggage becoming the transport for unwanted hitchhikers.
- In high risk places such as hotels, motels, backpackers, and other places people congregate to sleep it is wise to routinely carry out a search for signs of bed bugs so that treatment can be carried out

promptly. It may be appropriate to carry out preventative treatment on a regular basis (every two months) where there is high turnover of travelling people who might have come in contact with bed bugs elsewhere.

*Second hand furniture is a common way for Bed Bugs to be unknowingly moved from one home to another. If you are considering buying any used furniture, or you have purchased some recently, check it carefully and consider treating it with NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray as a preventative measure.

Active Ingredients

[NO Bed Bugs Total Solution Box](#) contains:

- NO Bed Bugs Concentrate: 100 g/L Permethrin, 3 g/L Pyriproxyfen in the form of a liquid concentrate.
- NO Bed Bugs/NO Bugs Borafume Fumigator: 72g /kg Cyphenothrin in the form of a vapour.

[NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray](#): 0.10 g/L Pyriproxyfen and 4 g/L Permethrin in the form of a ready to use liquid.

Alternatives

NO Bed Bugs Concentrate: [NO Fleas Total Concentrate](#).

NO Bed Bugs/NO Bugs Super Fumigator: [NO Fleas Bug Bomb](#).

NO Bed Bugs Total Protection Spray: [NO Fleas Total Ready to Use](#).

Last Updated: March 2018

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For information, advice and our interactive
problem solver

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