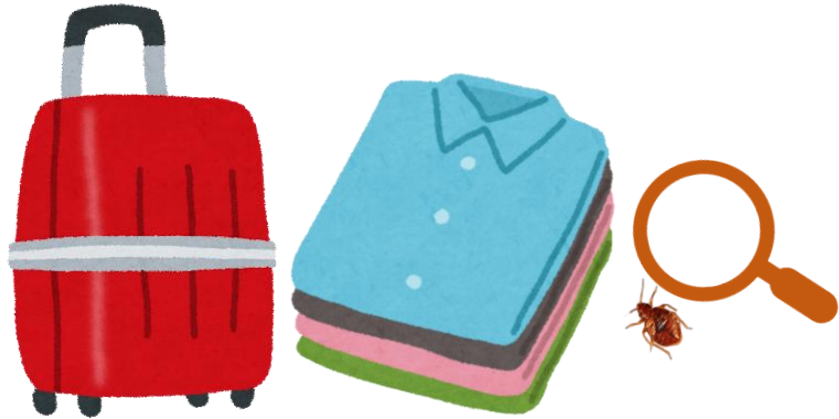




Bed Bugs OUT!

Bed bugs found at home can be handled using the following methods:



After returning home from a trip abroad, immediately wash clothes and check luggage to prevent bringing bed bugs home



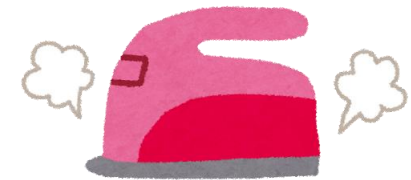
Sun exposure



Catching (vacuum cleaner)



Steaming (heat treatment)



Washing



Chemicals Administration, Ministry of Environment cares about you



環境部化學物質管理署
Chemicals Administration
Ministry of Environment

AD

What are Bed bugs? How to prevent them?

? What are Bed bugs?

- **Bed bugs**, also known as bedbugs, are parasitic insects from the genus Cimex. While there is no evidence indicating that bed bugs transmit diseases, their bites are extremely itchy. Due to frequent international travel, individuals returning from abroad may unintentionally bring bed bugs back home along with their clothes, luggage, or daily necessities if not vigilant.
- **Bed bugs are bloodthirsty insects** that love to feed on warm-blooded animals. Their bites may cause redness and swelling. In severe cases, can trigger systemic allergic reactions.
- The life cycle of bed bugs typically lasts for a year. Female bed bugs can lay 200 to 400 eggs, frequently depositing them within the seams of bedding. During the day, bed bugs conceal themselves in crevices and **become active primarily at night**.
- When bed bug nymphs first hatch, they appear translucent and lighter in color. After feeding on blood, they then turn brown.



(Bed bug eggs)

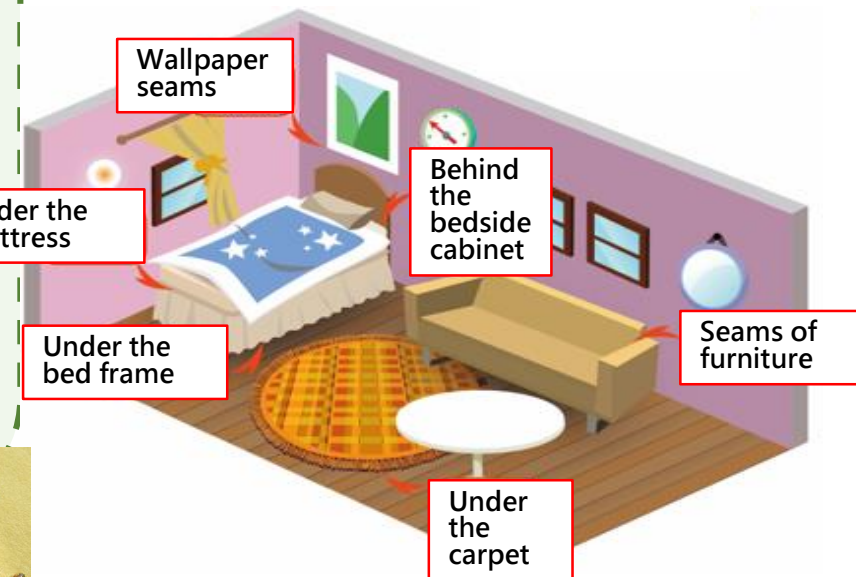


(Bed bug adults)



The bed bugs' growing environment

- You can check areas such as the bedspread, bed sheet, pillowcase, carpet, mattress, under the bed frame, wallpaper seams, and along bed edges for signs of bed bugs or their excrement (bloodstains).





How to Prevent Bed Bugs

- Environmental inspection : After returning home from a trip abroad, **immediately wash** clothes and check luggage to prevent bringing bed bugs home.
- Environmental management : Reduce the accumulation of clutter and wall crevices and any damage shall be repaired. Before bringing second-hand furniture home, check for any signs of bed bugs.
- Physical prevention :
 - Place straw mats or boxes in a plastic bag and tightly seal it for sun exposure. When the temperature reaches 65°C, it can help exterminate bed bugs.
 - Use the **vacuum cleaner** to frequently capture bed bugs.
 - When bed bugs are found, use a **hot steam iron for steam treatment**.
 - Clothes suspected to have bed bugs can be placed together in a plastic bag. Seal the bag tightly to prevent bed bugs from escaping. Then, **launder the bagged clothes** in a washing machine.
- Chemical control :

Use **legal environmental agents (household pesticides)** registered by the Ministry of Environment and follow the labeled instructions for effective bed bug control.
- In severe cases, seek assistance from legal and qualified pest control operators.

