



*“Termite” Terry and His Dog Spot!
(A bed bug sniffing dog)*

Special Report: Everything You Need To Know About Bed Bugs!

Bed Bugs Are Back With A Vengeance And Are By Far And Away The Most Difficult Of All Pests To Control!

Many of you are going out of your mind, trying to deal with these pests and I can easily understand why a history lesson on bed bugs might not sound interesting at first. But, in order to deal with these pests effectively, a little history can be invaluable because it will help you to understand where these pests came from and what you can do to get rid of them.

A Brief History Of Bed Bugs

Man has been plagued by bed bugs since the dawn of civilization. Historians believe that bed bugs were originally associated with bats living in tree holes and caves in the Middle East. Those caves are where they believe these parasites became associated with man. And, as these cave dwellers moved from caves and into villages, the bed bugs followed and became permanently associated with man. Others hypothesize that bed bugs may have moved onto man when bats roosted in his houses.

You can read about bed bugs in man’s recorded history:

- In 423 B.C., Aristophanes, the comic playwright from Ancient Athens, wrote of these pests in his play, “The Clouds”.
- The Romans used bed bugs to make their primitive medicines and their use can be traced to an army surgeon employed during the reign of Nero (54-68 A.D.) During this same time period, Pliny the Elder, also wrote of bed bugs and believed they could be used effectively to treat the bites of serpents and especially asps (venomous snakes). He also recommended their use against all poisons and as a way to loosen the hold of leaches.
- There are religious writings which have references to bed bugs. You can read of these in the Talmud and in the Apocryphal New Testament (The Acts of John 60-61).

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- John Southall, who lived in 18th century London, was the first known person to earn a living exterminating bed bugs. In 1730, he wrote a book titled “A Treatise of Buggs”. He was also known for selling his special “Liquor” for killing bed bugs to 18th Century “do-it-yourselfers”.

Bed bug populations literally exploded throughout Europe during the Industrial Age (Early 18th century through the 19th century). This was probably because a large percentage of the population started moving into cities and so many were using central heating.

The early colonists are probably responsible for introducing bed bugs to North America. Severe infestations of bed bugs were documented in the English colonies and Canada by colonial writers. Sailing ships were known for being infested with bed bugs and some ships would not even allow bedding to be brought on board.

Most Americans became very familiar with bed bugs during the 20th century. Back then, it was common to find buses, cloak rooms, movie theater seats, moving vans, office chairs, restrooms, street cars and trains, infested with these pests. So, everywhere you went, you were at risk of picking up bed bugs and bringing them home with you.

During those times, many different things and methods were used to try and control bed bugs. People commonly placed the legs of their beds in kerosene to help keep bed bugs from climbing up onto their mattresses. Many applied kerosene or benzene on their bed frames. Torches or candles were often used to burn bed bugs that were living inside of bed frames. Some tried fumigating their homes with hydrogen cyanide, sulfur dioxide or ethylene oxide. Most of these control measures were ineffective.

New Products To The Rescue!

A new pesticide formulation, called DDT, was introduced to the market after World War II. Pest control applicators started using this product and by the mid 1950's, bed bugs were virtually wiped out in developed countries. Other products were later introduced that also provided effective control. Homes and hotels were now, bed bug free. About the only places you might still find bed bugs were in shelters, prisons or cabins out in the wilderness.

Why Did Bed Bugs Come Back?

For forty or more years, bed bugs were very rarely seen in the United States and developed world. But, in the mid to late 1990's, we started seeing them again in apartments, homes, hospitals, hotels, motels, nursing homes and schools. The news media picked up on these stories and bed bug problems became big national news.

Please note that bed bug problems are not limited to the United States. Australia, Canada, Europe and Africa have also seen significant increases in bed bug infestations.

No one is sure of why these pests have re-emerged to such a large degree. But, when you consider that bed bug activity has increased world-wide and that so many people from other countries are visiting ours, one should certainly consider travel to be a major factor. Bed bugs are excellent hitchhikers and if you spend the night in an infested sleeping area, there is a great chance you'll bring bed bugs to your new destination.

Another factor could be the way in which modern day pest control procedures have changed. Everyone wants us to use lower amounts of pesticides when performing pest control services. Twenty years ago, it was common for pest control professionals to treat all of the baseboards in hotels, motels and apartments. So, if someone did bring in luggage which was infested with bed bugs, these pests would likely come in contact with the insecticide and die. In today's world, we don't spray the baseboards in every room with residual products. In many cases, we are only applying baits to control such pests as ants and roaches. That provides a safer environment for you and your family. But now, without residual insecticide applications, bed bugs are free to travel throughout the room, climb into your bed for a blood meal and to start infestations at will.

The High Costs Of Bed Bugs

The costs of controlling bed bugs are high. In California, you can expect to pay a reputable pest control company between \$400 and \$1,000 for an initial service on a one or two bedroom apartment. Since no one is going to be able to eliminate all bed bugs in only one visit, you'll also have to figure in the costs for follow-up treatments. Follow-up treatments can be usually estimated at about half the cost of the initial treatment and then you'd need to multiply that rate times the number of follow-up visits necessary. A very good technician, who does a very thorough inspection and treatment, might be able to solve a small bed bug problem with only two or three follow-up visits. Homes with severe infestations, excessive clutter and with occupants that are uncooperative, can be **labor intensive and may require numerous follow-up services**. Apartments with widespread infestations may require tens of thousands of dollars in pest control service, not to mention numerous other expenses for the landlords and tenants.

In today's litigious society, one cannot forget the threat of lawsuits. Hotels, motels, furniture rental companies, cruise ships, nursing homes and rental properties have all seen a dramatic rise in the number of lawsuits over bed bug infestations. These lawsuits usually accuse businesses for being negligent in allowing bed bug problems to exist and many make claims for physical pain, mental anguish, emotional distress, loss of earnings, and etc.

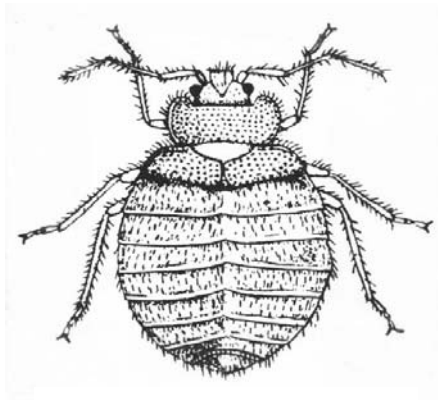
Landlords and property managers are now seeing sharp increases in the number of complaint calls about bed bugs and are being forced to pay for bed bug treatments or risk having their tenants walk away without having to pay rental fees. In California, tenants have a right to live in a habitable unit and under California Civil Code Section 1942, **tenants can have bed bug problems treated by a professional and they may deduct those expenses from their rent**. Or, **tenants have the right to move out, without notice**, if bed bug issues aren't resolved by the property owners. What if the landlord had nothing to do with the bedbugs and they were brought in by a tenant or a guest? In most cases, **the landlord is still going to have to pay for treatment or simply let their tenants walk away without paying rent** (These regulations are complicated and you should always seek legal counsel before dealing with these matters.).

What Exactly Is A Bed Bug?

Most people under the age of 60 have never even seen a bed bug so it is understandable that they wouldn't recognize signs of their infestation. I don't want to bore you with a lot of details on the biology of bed bugs. Instead, let's focus on those facts you really need to know in order to control these pests:

The bed bug is an insect that measures approximately 1/4th inch long and less than 1/8th inch wide when fully grown. It has an oval shaped body, which is somewhat flattened top to bottom and its color

ranges from brown to reddish-brown. With their body shape, bed bugs are able to crawl into the smallest of cracks and hide out for months. This makes them very hard to find and difficult to treat.



Bed Bug
(Cimex lectularius)



Actual Size Of A
Bed Bug

When conditions are right, a newly emerged female bed bug will have a blood meal, mate and will start laying eggs three to six days later. Females usually lay five to seven eggs a week. In perfect conditions, they may lay up to three eggs a day. If a female is able to feed regularly and mates periodically, she may live 6-18 months and be able to lay eggs for her entire life. Do the math and that is 200-500 viable eggs in her lifetime! As you can see, **BED BUGS MULTIPLY FAST!!** That is why you've got to try and tackle bed bug problems early. In other words; **If you think \$1,000 is too much to pay for a bed bug treatment at this time and you procrastinate, that same job may cost you \$10,000 next year.**

Bud bug eggs are pearly white and measure about 1mm long. These eggs are usually laid on textured surfaces, such as fabrics, wood, behind pictures, in furniture, along edges of baseboards and many other similar areas. These eggs have a sticky substance that cements them firmly to the surface and they are not easily removed. This is another reason why these pests are so hard to control!

An egg usually hatches within 7-10 days and that is when the young nymph emerges to start its bed bug life. Bed bugs develop by simple metamorphosis and they molt into each consecutive life stage by shedding their skin. Immature bed bugs are called nymphs and there are five stages of growth. Nymphs look similar to adults, except for size and color. It usually takes 1 ½ to 2 months for a bed bug to mature. An important fact to keep in mind is that nymphs can fit into a crack that is only slightly wider than a business card. That makes them almost impossible to find and exactly why a good technician must treat all cracks and crevices in infested areas, **thoroughly.**

What Do Bed Bugs Eat?

Bedbugs only feed on blood. They prefer human blood, however, we know they will also draw blood from bats, birds, cats, dogs, mice, rats as well as many other animals. Bed bugs are “temporary ectoparasites” and that means they only go onto a host when they are ready for a blood meal. All the rest of their time is spent hiding in protective places. Under good conditions, they will feed weekly. It is very important to note that **bed bugs can survive for up to a year without a blood meal.** Got a cabin or condo that has been vacant for a year or less? Don't worry, if you had bed bugs before you left, they will still be waiting there when you return!

Where Do Bed Bugs Live?

Most bed bugs like to cluster together in harborage sites where they are protected from predators. This also makes it easier for them to find a mate. Look inside one of these hiding areas and you'll see them squeezed in there, shoulder to shoulder, along with their droppings, shed skins and eggs. These sites are usually close to the host, however, some sites may be as far as 20-66 feet away. Bed bugs travel at a fast rate of over 4 feet per minute, so moving 20 to 66 feet is no big deal for them.

You'll find bed bugs living in narrow cracks and crevices made of rough materials, such as unfinished wood, under wall papers and cloth (mattresses, box springs and furniture). They prefer dark areas and they don't like air movement/drafty areas. If you're looking for signs of bed bugs in a room, start by inspecting the mattress, box spring, bed frame and head board. Again, bed bugs usually like living close to the host so a bed a great place to start looking.

What Do Bed Bug Bites Look Like?

Everybody is different and reactions to bed bug bites will vary from person to person. Their bites are initially painless. If you were to watch during the bite, you might feel a slight tingling or tickling as the bug probed your skin. A lot of people will show no reaction to bed bug bites. Others may exhibit a slight reddish mark to a swollen, inflamed wheel (often more than 3/8th inch in diameter) which may itch intensely for days. Bites are usually on arms, shoulders, neck or elsewhere. You'll rarely see bites on the palms or soles of feet (That is where you'll find evidence of scabies).

It is common for bite marks to appear as two or more bites in a row. The reasons for this are that a single bed bug may be feeding in multiple locations along the same blood vein. Another explanation could be that several bed bugs may be lined up along a crease or fold in a bed sheet. Either way, you'll see two or more bites in a row.

If you see a red mark, bump or wheel on your skin, it is hard to tell if it was really caused by a bed bug. Even physicians commonly misdiagnose bed bug bites. A wide variety of insects will produce similar marks. Bed bug bites are sometimes confused with scabies, chicken pox or allergic reactions. Keep in mind that just because you see two or more bites in a row, that doesn't necessarily mean they were caused by bed bugs.

Do Bed Bugs Spread Disease?

The bed bug has a piercing/sucking beak that is basically like a hypodermic needle attached to a pump. Bed bugs must have a blood meal during each of their five growth stages (instars) and adults may feed as often as every three to five days. One might think that amount of blood feeding would make bed bugs a serious health threat. Many are also concerned bed bugs may be feeding from an ill person or sick animal, which could spread disease from one to another. After all, don't other pests like fleas, ticks and mosquitoes transmit deadly diseases that way? Sure, you've heard all about malaria, Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, plague, yellow fever, West Nile virus and encephalitis being spread around by various insects.

Researchers have tried to implicate bed bugs in disease transmission. Some lab technicians have even artificially infected bed bugs with pathogens, such as hepatitis B virus and HIV. Research literature suggests there is some potential for disease transmission, but no researcher has been able to document that bed bugs will transmit a single human disease.

At this time, we're not sure if bed bugs will induce allergies in some people. We know cockroaches, house dust mites, Asian lady beetles and fleas are causes of allergies and asthma in susceptible people. More research will be needed before we'll know if bed bugs are a cause of these problems.

How To Prevent Bed Bugs From Becoming A Problem

Bed bug infestations can have a serious impact on businesses. Hotels, motels, resorts, apartments, college dorms, shelters, group homes, furniture rental companies, used furniture stores, health care facilities and nursing homes are just a few of the businesses that are at risk.

Businesses, such as these, will need to become proactive in order to reduce their risks of becoming a victim of these pests. The following programs need to be developed:

1. Procedures to reduce the chance of bed bugs being introduced into their building.
2. Regularly scheduled inspections to detect problems early and prevent the spreading to other areas.
3. Control measures to keep bed bugs from being passed on to clients or guest.
4. Have a written program in place so that if bed bugs are found, everyone will know exactly what steps will need to be taken to control them and prevent spreading.

Here are a some key things you can do to help prevent bed bug infestations in your business:

- Train your employees and make sure they know what bed bugs and their evidence looks like. This is so important. **Your staff really needs to know this stuff so that if they do find a problem, you can deal with it NOW. The last thing you need is to hear complaints from clients or guests, LATER!**
- Train your housekeeping staff to do bed bug inspections during bed services. You'll also need staff members who are trained to do **intensive inspections of bedding** on a regular basis (The higher the risks, the more often intensive inspections will be needed).
- Install encasements on all of your mattresses and box springs. We highly recommend that you use the "Bug Lock" brand encasements. These will completely seal your mattresses and box springs. They also make inspections and monitoring for bed bugs much less difficult. Please note that most mattress covers are not bed bug proof and if you're serious about keeping them out, don't settle for less than the best.
- Train your staff on how to manage laundry to prevent bed bugs from spreading. This is really important because the careless handling of infested laundry will likely cause the spreading of these pests to other areas or rooms.
- Inspect your housekeeping equipment and storage areas on a regular basis. Items kept in these areas are very likely to come in contact with bed bugs and if there is a problem, you need to deal with it NOW. You can't afford to have your staff carrying infested equipment and supplies into other areas of your building.
- Train your staff to "aggressively vacuum" when cleaning rooms. Running a vacuum over the floors is good, but your staff will really need to start using upholstery brushes and crevice tools in areas where bed bugs wander. The better you vacuum, the more likely you'll remove newly arrived bed bugs. And, don't forget to clean and service your vacuums on a regular basis - You don't want to have infested vacuum cleaners spreading bed bugs throughout your building!
- Reducing bed bug harborage is a very good way to help prevent problems. Clean up clutter as much as possible. Piles of clothing and boxes can make early detection very difficult and will

provide numerous areas for bed bugs to hide. It is also a good idea to seal cracks and crevices so that bed bugs have even fewer places to hide.

- If possible, isolate beds from walls, furniture, curtains and the floor. Make sure bed skirts do not touch the floor. These steps to isolate the bed will make it more difficult for bed bugs to travel back and forth from other harborage areas.
- If you store extra furniture, bedding and other items, make sure you manage these storage areas carefully. You've got to check items to be sure they are not infested with bed bugs **before** you store them away. Remember, if you place an infested item in your storage area, chances are that bed bugs will spread to the other items. Just imagine having a room full of extra furnishings and all of them are infested with bed bugs – Every time you took something out of that room, you'd be spreading them into new areas!
- Take care when designing rooms. Anything you can do to reduce the numbers of cracks, crevices and voids in a room will make it less bed bug friendly. Smooth wall finishes are good, popcorn ceilings are bad.
- The right choices in furnishings can make a big difference. For instance, metal framed beds are better than platform beds because they don't have that large sealed void underneath. Headboards may be the number one place for bed bugs and you don't want headboards that are glued or nailed to the wall because they can't be removed for servicing. Wicker furniture is not a good idea. Make sure drapes don't touch the floor or beds. If you want to use bed skirts, make sure they don't touch the floor.
- Consider doing preventative insecticide treatments on a regular basis. While there is no proof that these kinds of treatments will prevent bed bug infestations, many feel this is good way to intercept newly arrived bed bugs and prevent them from becoming established.
- Preventative heat treatments are a good way to help prevent bringing bed bugs into your business. Let's say you have a furniture rental business, all of your returning furniture could be heat treated before you put it back in stock. Or, apartment managers may want to require all new residents to heat treat all their furnishings before they are allowed to move in. Is this a hassle? Yes! But, having a warehouse full of infested furniture or an apartment with dozens of infested units is WORSE!

How To Travel And Stay Bed Bug Free!

Are you planning to take a vacation or business trip? Here is a list of things you should do before you leave:

- Encase all of your mattresses and box springs before you go. We highly recommend you use "Bug Lock" brand encasements. These will completely seal your mattresses and box springs. You need to do this because, if you accidentally do bring bed bugs home with you from your trip, these will keep them from infesting your mattresses and box springs. Please note that most mattress covers are not bed bug proof. If you're serious about keeping them out, don't settle for less than the best.
- Bring heavy duty plastic bags with you in your car. Buy 2 ml or greater plastic bags that are large enough to fit over your suitcases. On your way home from your trip, you'll need to seal your luggage in these bags before you put them in your car. If you do pick up bed bugs while traveling, this will keep them from infesting your car.
- We recommend that you buy "No-Pest Strips". These will be used to destroy bed bugs that may have gotten into your luggage during the trip.
- When packing for your trip, we recommend hard shelled luggage because it is less friendly to bed bugs. Items, such as electronics, toiletries, etc. should be packed in Ziploc bags to protect them from bed bugs. Clothing to be hot laundered or dry cleaned can be dealt with when you get home.

While you're at your destination, here's what you should do:

- Keep your luggage closed and don't place it next to beds, upholstered furniture or in a closet.
- Keep items like books, electronics and toiletries in Ziploc bags when you're not using them. Even your laptop should be kept in a Ziploc bag, especially at night.
- Inspect your bed by pulling back the sheets and checking the edges of the mattress and box springs. Look for signs of live bugs, dark brown or black spots and shed skins from bed bugs. If you see signs of a bed bug infestation, you should notify the property manager immediately.

When you are ready to return home, these are very important steps you need to take:

- Seal all luggage in heavy duty plastic bags before you put them in your car. Again, this will keep the bed bugs from infesting your vehicle.
- When you get home, don't take your luggage inside your house. We recommend unpacking your items in a well lit garage or outdoors. Be sure to throw out the plastic bags that you used to seal up your luggage. Place them in the trash, outside and away from your home.
- Separate clothing that can be laundered and clothing to be dry cleaned. Seal items to be laundered in plastic bags or in dissolvable laundry bags. Items to be dry cleaned should be sealed in plastic bags and sent to the cleaners as soon as possible.
- Clothing to be laundered should be washed in the hottest possible wash cycle and then placed in a dryer for at least 30 minutes.
- Items that can't be laundered, such as electronics or luggage, should be put in a plastic bag. Place one of the "No Pest Strips" that you purchased before the trip in the bag and seal it. Leave the bag sealed for at least two weeks to insure that all bed bugs have been destroyed. **NOTE: YOU MUST ALWAYS FOLLOW THE PRODUCT LABEL'S INSTRUCTIONS. NEVER USE THIS PRODUCT WITH FOOD, MEDICINE, SKIN CARE OR COSMETIC ITEMS!** Another way to deal with items that can't be laundered is to put them in a black plastic bag and expose them to a hot environment, such as in an automobile during a sunny day. The inside of the bag will have to reach 115° F for at least 20 minutes. Please note that this method is not suitable for items that may be heat sensitive.
- Double check your mattress and box spring encasements you installed before you left home. These should be inspected from time to time after returning to ensure that you are bed bug free. If you do see any signs of bed bugs, you need to call a professional pest control specialist.

We know that all of these precautions may seem a bit much for you to have to deal with. But, ask anyone who has lived through the nightmare of a bed bug infestation and they will all tell you that these steps are well worth the trouble.

To Eliminate Bed Bugs, Start With A Thorough Inspection!

Thorough inspections are extremely important if you're really serious about controlling bed bugs. That is especially true if treatments are only going to be performed in certain areas or portions of a structure. If you are going to fumigate the entire structure, inspections don't have to be quite as thorough because the **fumigation will take care of all bed bugs you see, plus all of the others that you can't see.** Before we get into the details of what a good inspection consist of, I'd like to share a quick, true story that will really make a point;

"There was once a very well known pest control consultant working on a home with a bed bug problem. The consultant and his team did a very thorough inspection of this home and when they did the treatment, everything was done by the book. Unfortunately, the homeowner continued getting bit by bed bugs. The consultant and his team came

back, time after time, week after week, to do additional treatments but the problem wouldn't go away.

Then one day, the consultant was talking to the homeowner and for one reason or another, the homeowner revealed he had lost his leg sometime ago and that he wore a prosthetic leg. The consultant immediately asked if the homeowner would remove the prosthetic leg and allow him to inspect it. Sure enough, that prosthetic leg was full of bedbugs!"

This story really makes my point of why **thorough inspections are so critical**. The consultant could have continued treating that home. But, if he wouldn't have found those bed bugs in the prosthetic leg, he may have never solved the owner's problem. Stop and think about this story for a moment and you'll realize those bedbugs had it made while living in that prosthetic leg. They were completely protected in there and none of the chemicals the consultant was using would have ever touched them. And, they were really happy because they could suck away on that man's blood, all day and all night if they wanted to!

To solve a bed bug problem, **you've got to find and treat everyone of them**. Leave a few behind and your problems may never go away.

How To Do A Thorough Bed Bug Inspection

Every place is different, but I'll walk you through what an inspection would be like in a typical hotel room. Here is how I'd do it:

1. The first place I'll start is with the bed. I prefer that you leave all of your blankets, pillows and sheets on the bed and let me pull them off. That increases my odds of finding bed bugs and it helps keep bed bugs from being spread around to other areas of the home. All of these items need to be checked. The mattress will need to be looked at closely and then flipped over so we can look at the other side. Box springs need to be checked and then turned over. We'll probably have to remove that gauze fabric on the bottom so we can take a close look in there. Think about it and you'll realize there are thousands of places in a box spring where bed bugs can hide! **Headboards may be the number one place to find bed bugs** and they need to be inspected. If a headboard is mounted on the wall, it will need to be pulled off so we can look back there, too. Bed frames are great places for bed bugs to hide out. Every joint, every single screw and all of the legs need to be checked for bed bugs and their eggs. Watch out for hollow bed frame tubes because there could be enormous amounts of them in there. Of course, we need to check everything left under the beds. You'll often find a lot of bed bugs hiding in these items.
2. Next, I'll check those furnishings located next to the bed. If there is a dresser or nightstand next to the bed, I'll pull out all the drawers. We need to look at each drawer, inside and out. The drawer tracks need special attention. Each furniture item needs to be checked, inside and out and then turned over so we can look at the bottoms, too. Remember, there are hundreds of cracks, seams and even staple holes where bed bugs can hide in each of these items and they will all need to be treated. If there is a lamp or clock on there, it will need to be inspected and treated, too.
3. All pictures on the walls will need to be removed and they may have to be taken apart. There are a lot of places in a picture where bed bugs can hide.
4. Television sets, stereos and other equipment need to be inspected.
5. All clothing should be checked. These items should be bagged and laundered in hot water and ran through a clothes drier. Dry cleaning items should be bagged and sent to the cleaners.

Check and treat closets, carefully. And, don't forget to check clothes hangers because a simple wooden hanger has at least seven points where bed bugs and their eggs can hide! Those cheap metal hangers with cardboard tubes can hold hundreds of bed bugs. You should probably bag those up and throw them away.

6. All areas of baseboards, door casings and wood trim will need to be inspected. Carpeting should be lifted along the edges of all walls, inspected and treated, as well. Look carefully at drapes. They should be laundered or taken to the cleaners.
7. Once we've completed inspection of the first room, we then need to inspect the rooms located on both sides of this room. And, if there are rooms located above or below this first room, they should be inspected, also. Remember, **bed bugs are fully capable of traveling from one room to another.**

Inspections like this are a big job and may take one, two or more hours to complete. If there are large items in the room, we may even need to bring in a second person to help.

Can you get by with a "quickie" inspection? Maybe. But, what good is a service if they only get half of the bed bugs? That is why we always recommend you start with a thorough inspection and do the job right – the first time.

Sometimes, You Have To Bring In The Dogs!

Every once in a while, you'll run into a situation where you suspect a problem but you can't find any bed bugs or evidence to prove it. Here is an example of one of those cases;

Let's say you're a landlord, you've got a tenant who has bite marks on his arm and he's threatening to stop paying rent until you solve his bed bug problem. You're a good landlord, so you call your pest control expert out to take a look at the tenant's home. And, let's say that your pest expert does do a very thorough inspection and he still can't find any signs of bed bugs. But, the tenant doesn't believe you or your pest expert and still swears he won't pay rent until you fix his problem. Now, what do you do?

You could always call another pest control company and have them look at it. But, if your pest expert took everything apart in the room and couldn't find anything, do you really want to hire another pest guy to come in and tear everything apart, again?? Instead of reliving that nightmare, how about bringing in a "bed bug detecting dog"?

Dogs have a very keen sense of smell and have been used for hunting down a number of things, such as bombs, cadavers, drugs and fugitives. Specially trained dogs are also very effective at finding bed bugs. While they are not always perfect, these bed bug sniffing dogs can detect bed bugs which would otherwise be missed by the human eye.

Let's go back to the above story you just read. And, let's say that bed bugs were actually living behind a baseboard mounted on one of the room's walls. They can't be seen and no one would ever find them there! Baseboards are normally nailed down, caulked, painted in place and there is no way to get them off without doing damage to your walls. That is why your pest control expert would never pull them all off during his inspection, unless he knew for sure there were bed bugs in there. How can we find them without tearing your house apart? Let's bring in a bed bug sniffing dog. Then, if the dog signals there are bed bugs living in that area, you'll really know it is time to pull the baseboard off and take a closer look.

Perhaps you have a large entertainment center that would be a major task to move. If the dog sniffed there and alerted us that bed bugs were behind it, then we all would know it was worth the effort to pull the entertainment center out and take a closer look.

Anytime the dog alerts of a possible bed bug infestation, we always recommend the inspector take a closer look at the area and confirm whether or not bed bugs are present. These dogs are good at their job, but again, they aren't perfect.

Canines are also useful for routine inspections in high risk environments, such as hotel rooms, college dorms, cruise ships, group homes, shelters or movie theaters. Having a dog inspect all areas once a month is a great way to help insure that small problems aren't overlooked. This should be done in addition to basic inspections being performed by your in-house staff, which should always be well trained in what to look for.

Using dogs can also cut down on time and labor because they are much more efficient than humans. A dog may take only 2-3 minutes to inspect a typical hotel room, while a skilled technician may take 15 or 20 minutes to inspect that same room. Even if the dog missed an infestation of bed bugs this month, it is unlikely the dog would miss finding that same problem next month.

It does cost more to do bed bug inspections with a dog. These dogs are expensive. They cost roughly \$20,000, require a lot of care and their career may only last two years. But, because many infestations will go undetected for several months before they are found by humans, **the dogs may actually save you a lot of money in the long run.** With a dog to help you find the small problems, you'll have an opportunity to deal with them before they get out of control and ruin your budget.

Nonchemical Bed Bug Control

Bed bugs are by far and away the most difficult of all pests to control and **with the exception of whole structure fumigation, no single control method will eliminate bed bugs with certainty.** What you'll find is that a number of control methods will be needed over multiple service visits before control is achieved.

- Vacuuming is always a good place to start. The way I look at it is: "A female bed bug will lay 200-500 eggs in her lifetime and **for every female bed bug I vacuum up, that means 200 to 500 fewer adult bed bugs that I'll have to deal with later.** Vacuuming up the males is good because females can't lay eggs unless they mate first. And, vacuuming will pick up a lot of their eggs so we won't have to worry about them becoming adults." It is really important to vacuum aggressively. Just running a vacuum over the floor is not enough. You'll need to use upholstery brushes and crevice tools to vacuum in places where bed bugs wander. Unfortunately, we can only vacuum areas that are accessible. That is why vacuuming alone, won't solve all your problems. **NOTE:** Don't forget to clean and service your vacuum. Otherwise, your vacuum will start spreading bed bugs to uninfested areas!
- Install encasements on all of your mattresses and box springs. We highly recommend that you use the "Bug Lock" brand encasements. These will completely seal your mattresses and box springs. They also make inspections and monitoring for bed bugs much less difficult. Please note that most mattress covers are not bed bug proof and if you're serious about keeping them out, don't settle for less than the best.

- Place “Climb Up Insect Interceptors” under the legs of your bed and furniture. These small, simple devices will help to prevent bed bugs from ever coming into contact with you, your bed or furniture. Climb Up Insect Interceptors will not only block access, but they will also trap bed bugs so they can’t get out. These traps are easy to monitor and they will assist you in early detection of problems.
- In some cases, heat treatments can be a very effective control measure. All stages of bed bugs, including the eggs, will die if exposed to a temperature of at least 113 degrees for one hour. Heat treatments may be performed on an entire structure or they can be limited to only portions of a structure as needed. Another way to use heat would be to place all infested items into a compartment, such as a shipping container or truck trailer and heat the interior and contents up to 113 degrees, or more. Heat treatments are done using large propane heaters and you can actually walk into a structure while it is being heat treated. The structure’s interior will feel like the inside of a car on a hot day and there are no toxic fumes. Unfortunately, it is not a perfect treatment: (1.) Some areas, such as wall voids may be difficult to heat up to a lethal temperature, (2.) There is a potential of heat damage to some items, such a electronic devices, furniture, vinyl flooring and windows, etc., or (3.) Bed bugs may simply move out of the area to escape the heat and then return once the heat is gone. Since no pesticides are used, heat treatments offer no residual control. For best results, you may want to consider combining heat treatments with residual insecticide applications.
- Steam is another good tool for bed bug control. When properly used, steam will kill all stages of bed bugs. It works well for treating bed bugs on mattresses, box springs, upholstered furniture and edges of carpets near baseboards. You may also want to steam carpeting, which is located under beds and in closets. When doing these treatments, it is always better to use a machine that produces a dry steam. This will help to reduce the risk of water damage. You’ll need to remember that steam provides no residual protection against bed bugs and you’ll probably need to supplement these treatments with residual insecticide applications.
- Laundering and drying is a great way to eliminate bed bugs in clothing. 100% of all bed bugs and their eggs will be killed if they are run through a standard wash cycle using hot water. Bed bugs and their eggs will also be eliminated if you place your infested fabrics in a clothes dryer for 5 minutes, at 175°F or more. You may want to consider placing heat resistant items like, area rugs, backpacks, shoes, stuffed animals and toys in the clothes drier, also.
- Cold temperatures can be used to kill bed bugs. More research is needed on this control method, however, the U.S. military suggest that freezing items to a temperature below 0°F for at least four days may be sufficient to control limited infestations of bed bugs. Most home upright freezers are capable of maintaining these low temperatures when they are in good working order. Household freezer chest and commercial walk in freezers may be capable of -20°F. If you are going to use this method, always watch for items which may be damaged by freezing. You’ll also need to handle frozen items carefully to prevent damage. Freezing offers no residual bed bug protection. Additional treatment may be needed.
- Spot cold treatment is a relatively new technology. It is called the Cryonite system and it uses pressurized CO₂. When this product is released, it is deposited like a “snow”. This snow comes out of the application tip at -108°F and will rapidly kill pests by rapidly freezing them to temperatures between -4°F and -22°F. The manufacturer does not claim that this is a stand alone treatment for bed bugs. If you are going to use their system, they recommend you supplement their treatment system with vacuuming and applications of diatomaceous earth.

Treatments Using Insecticides

After World War II, DDT was introduced to the market place. Professional applicators started using this new product and by the mid 1950's, bed bugs were virtually wiped out in developed countries. In 1972, the EPA banned DDT for most uses. Other products, which proved effective in controlling bed bugs, were also taken off the market.

Please note that those products, which are no longer available, worked so well that only one application was needed for the control in many cases. Today, our products are much safer but they are not nearly as effective or long lasting. One treatment with these new products will rarely eliminate all signs of bed bugs.

Many people in today's world are concerned about the use of insecticides and that is a good thing. However, bed bugs are by far and away the toughest pests we have to deal with today and it is highly doubtful that control of these pests is obtainable without the use of insecticides. Today, due to the limited effectiveness of our current line of insecticides, bed bug control will require an integrated approach that combines mechanical control methods and a lot more emphasis on bed bug prevention.

Important Facts About Today's Insecticide Formulations

Many people assume if you buy a product and it has instructions for bed bug treatment on its label, that it must be effective. This is not always the case. When the EPA registers a product for use in our country, they aren't concerned about efficacy. Their primary job is to evaluate the health and safety aspects of the product before it is introduced to the market. The EPA depends on market forces to insure that a product does what it claims.

Currently, there is little published research on which products perform best or are ineffective. We do know that bed bugs are resistant to some products and we know that some repellent products are making it more difficult to control these pests (At Termite Terry Pest Control, we don't use those products but a lot of companies still do).

I see all kinds of bed bug treatment products being advertised and some of the manufacturers are making amazing claims. But, if you'll do a little checking, you'll see they have no research to back their claims. Just the other day, I heard a story about a company that had been advertising their "*all natural*" product as "*the way to end all bed bug problems*". Their product sounded great, but now I hear their business went "belly-up" because their stuff wasn't effective (This is a good example of how market forces work).

The only method that is truly effective in controlling bed bugs in all stages is fumigation with a gas. These fumigations are done by covering and sealing the entire structure with a tent and we only recommend using Vikane gas because they have the research to prove their product is **100% effective**. Please don't confuse this type of fumigation with the use of setting off "bug bombs". While bug bombs may kill off a few adult bed bugs, they will not eliminate an entire population and they will have little (If any) effect on bed bug eggs.

What Types Of Formulations Are Available?

Here are some of the common formulations used for controlling bed bugs:

- Dust formulations work well because they are long lasting. They are available in both repellent and non-repellent formulations. We usually recommend non-repellent formulations. Dusts should be applied in areas where they are kept out of reach, such as in wall voids. When performing a treatment, it is a good idea to remove electric outlet and wall switch covers and apply dusts in those areas. Look for other areas, such as under platform beds, false bottoms under cabinets, hollow furniture legs and under carpet edges. Another good place to apply dusts might be under the gauze, which is located on the bottom of box springs and couches.
- Liquid products can be effective and we usually recommend using a **non-repellent formulation**. Only small amounts of these products are needed and most applications should be done using a small, pin-stream application tip. There is no need to “broadcast” these products all over your walls and furnishings. The secret to effective use is to apply small amounts to key areas where the bed bugs live and hide. This type of treatment requires more time, effort and a lot of attention to detail. But, if done properly, your results may be outstanding. **The beauty of a non-repellent formulation is that the bed bugs can’t see it, they can’t smell it, they can’t taste it and they don’t even know it is there – Until it’s too late and they die!** The drawback to this type of product is that most non-repellent products are slow acting and you’ve got to be patient. Other types of liquid formulations are available which may offer quicker results. In some cases, they may be your best choice, but you’ve got to be careful because repellent products may actually cause bed bugs to spread to other areas.
- Fogs have been used to control bed bugs. You can buy these “foggers” in a can at the store or some professional applicators have “fogging” machines which will produce an airborne “fog or mist”. Most of these products are made with an active ingredient that has a very short residual life. You may be able to kill off some adult bed bugs with these products. However, many bed bugs will simply run out of the area and wait for these products to dissipate. Please note that these products will have little (if any) effect on bed bug eggs.
- DDVP is a product which can be used very effectively against bed bugs and it is unusual because it **acts almost like a fumigant**. This product has been around for a number of years and is commonly used in pet flea and tick collars. Another common use of this product is in “No-Pest Strips” which you’ll see hanging up in places like stores, where they are trying to control flying pest. You’ll find these very useful in treating items such as suit cases, TV sets, stereos and computers. Let’s say you’ve got a nice stereo next to your bed and it is infested with bed bugs. Well, you can’t just start spraying something like that with a can of bug spray. Instead, you should seal that item in a heavy duty plastic bag along with a “No-Pest Strip”, put it out in your garage or storage shed and let it set for a few days or a week. The DDVP from the pest strip will literally fumigate the item while it is in storage and when you pull it out, **it will be bed bug free.** Follow the instructions and you’ll see that **this product is very effective on bed bug eggs, too!** We highly recommend using this product.
- A lot of other types of products are available, but without research to back up the manufacturer’s claims, we can’t recommend them. You’ll see ads for all natural products, “safe products” made with plant oils, bed bug bombs and you may even hear some talk about using IGRs (insect growth regulators). With many of these products, there is no research to substantiate their claims and all you have to go on is what they say in their advertising. Bed bugs are a serious problem and we recommend that you only use products which have proven results.

What Areas Should Be Treated?

Before you start any treatment program, **you need to read the product label's instructions very carefully!** Read these product labels and you'll see exactly how, when and where they should be used. Pay special attention and you'll see many of them tell you not to use their products in certain areas or in certain circumstances. This is really important because **you cannot afford to take the risk of doing harm to the occupants, their pets and you don't want to risk damaging items being treated.** And, due to the fact that bed bugs are so difficult to control, we strongly recommend you hire a competent professional technician to perform the treatments for you. Here is a list of potential sites for pesticide treatment:

- The bed is always a great place to start any treatment. Remove the mattress and box spring and begin by treating all of the cracks, crevices, screws, casters and joints in the bed frame.
- Head boards are areas where you'll frequently find a lot of bed bugs. Remove the head board and treat every crack, crevice and screw hole thoroughly.
- The box spring is next. You'll probably have to remove the gauze, located on the underside and then treat the box spring thoroughly— inside and out.
- Install a bed bug proof encasement over the box spring before you place it back on the frame. If any bed bugs or eggs are left in there after your treatment, the encasement will seal them inside and they won't be able to escape. This encasement will also keep bed bugs out of the box spring. Another great benefit is that these encasements offer a smooth surface which will make future bed bug inspections much simpler to do.
- Stand the mattress up and treat all of the tufts, seams and buttons. **YOU'VE GOT TO CAREFULLY READ THE MANUFACTURER'S LABEL AND FOLLOW THEIR INSTRUCTIONS. NOT ALL PRODUCTS CAN BE USED ON BEDDING!! WE DON'T RECOMMEND TREATING BEDS FOR ANYONE WHO IS ILL OR BEDRIDDEN.**
- Install a bed bug proof encasement over the mattress before you place it on the box spring. If any bed bugs or eggs are left in the mattress after treatment, the encasement will seal them inside and they won't be able to escape. This encasement will keep bed bugs out of your mattress and will also make future inspections much, much easier to perform.
- You'll need to treat any furniture located near the bed, such as dressers, nightstands, etc. Empty the contents into heavy duty plastic bags. Clothing should be laundered or dry cleaned as needed. Have other items you suspect may be infested, such as computers, clock radios, lamps, phones, televisions, hair driers, etc.? You may need to bag those items separately, take them out to the garage or storage shed and treat them using a "No-Pest Strip". Always follow the instructions, carefully!
- Once the furniture is emptied out, remove the drawers and turn the units upside down. Every single crack, crevice, joint, screw hole and track must be carefully treated. Hey, I'm not exaggerating because these bed bugs are even worse than I can possibly describe. A lot of times, we'll pull a screw out and there will be several bed bugs inside the hole. Or, we'll pull one of those metal tracks off that the drawers ride on and there will be hundreds of bed bugs back there. When doing these treatments, you've got to be thorough and treat everything you can reach!
- Couches and upholstered furniture are a lot like mattresses because there are a lot of tufts, seams and buttons that need treatment. Turn the unit upside down, remove the gauze and treat those areas as well.
- Pull the mirrors and pictures off the wall. You may have to disassemble them. Do a thorough treatment because mirrors and picture frames have a lot of places where bed bugs can hide.

- When doing treatments, you've got to pay extra attention to areas in the room where you have base boards, door casings and moldings. These leave a lot of places for bed bugs to hide.
- Treat under edges of carpet. Look for cracks or seams in wood and tile floors.
- Electrical outlets, wall switches and light fixtures should be treated as needed.
- Clothes closets need to be treated carefully. Remove all the clothing, place them in bags and put them in the washer or send them to the cleaners. Remove all other items and place them in heavy duty plastic bags. Infested items should be taken out to the garage or storage shed and you may want to treat them using a "No-Pest Strip". Watch out for clothes hangers because they can be loaded with bed bugs. Treat all hangers carefully or throw them away.
- Once the closet is completely empty, treat all cracks, crevices, holes, baseboard areas, under carpet edges, racks and shelves. Do a thorough treatment because it doesn't make any sense to clean all your clothes and then stick them back into an infested closet!

Ladies and gentlemen, I could keep going on and on, listing areas and items that need to be treated. There are so many other areas and items that may need treatment! But, I think by now you have got my point. Bed bugs can fit into a crack the thickness of a business card and if you'll only take a moment and look around any room, anywhere – YOU CAN FIND A "GAZILLION" AREAS WHERE BED BUGS CAN HIDE! And, you only have to leave one area untreated and you'll still have a bed bug problem. **Bed bugs are by far and away the toughest pests we have to deal with.** This is not an easy job! If you really want to do it yourself, that's great. But, we really do suggest that you hire a professional. And, be prepared to pay because a good treatment won't be cheap.

When All Else Fails, Fumigate It!

The only method that is truly effective in controlling bed bugs in all stages is fumigation with a gas. If you've tried everything else, spent countless time and money and still can't get rid of your bed bug problems, it's time to fumigate. Or, you could just start by having your home or business fumigated and then you could skip all that frustration and save yourself a lot of time and money.

Please don't confuse this type of fumigation with the use of setting off "bug bombs". While bug bombs may kill off a few adult bed bugs that are out in the open, they will not eliminate an entire population and they will have little (if any) effect on bed bug eggs.

Fumigations are performed by covering and sealing a structure with "canvas like" tarps and injecting a fumigant. Depending on the concentration of gas, the fumigation exposure will be between 18-48 hours. We only recommend Vikane gas be used because of the substantial amount of research to prove that it is **100% effective in eliminating bed bugs.** Once the fumigation exposure has been completed, the structure will then need to be aired out, about 16-18 hours, before anyone is allowed to re-enter.

The advantages of fumigation are:

1. The gas will penetrate into hidden areas where the bed bugs live and hide.
2. Vikane gas will kill all stages of bed bugs, including their eggs.
3. There is no resistance of bed bugs to Vikane gas.
4. Control is fast and a single treatment can eliminate all bed bugs.
5. You don't have to worry about how much storage or clutter there is in the structure and you don't have to empty all your drawers and closets because the gas will penetrate everywhere.
6. Vikane gas leaves no surface residue or odor.

The disadvantages of fumigation are:

1. Can be more expensive. You always have to consider that small infestations of bed bugs (if caught early enough) may be controlled for less money by using localized treatments. But, you also have to watch out because if additional/repeat services are going to be needed, localized treatments may actually wind up costing far more than a fumigation. (I'll be honest with you - sometimes I wish I had a crystal ball so I could accurately predict everyone's future. Know anyone with a crystal ball for sale?)
2. Vikane gas leaves no residual control and if someone brings bed bugs back into the structure, the problem may start over again. That is why you have really got to work with your fumigator and make sure that everything is left inside the structure during the fumigation. Let's say you had an infested back pack and you took it with you during the fumigation. Well, if you bring that infested back pack home with you after the fumigation, guess what? Your bed bug problems may start all over again! **If at all possible, walk out of the house with only freshly laundered clothes on. Leave everything else inside for the fumigation!** (In situations where you have a history of bed bug infestations in a home or structure, you should consider regular inspections, cultural changes and residual treatments to help prevent a re-infestation.)
3. Can be inconvenient because everyone and their pets will have to move out for three to four days (depending on the concentration of gas). All food and medicine will need to be either removed from the structure or placed in special plastic "Nylofume" bags". Live plants will need to be taken out of the structure and plants located adjacent to the structure may be affected (Work with your fumigator and you can greatly minimize damage to your landscaping.). Fragile tile roofs are sometimes a problem, but again, work with your fumigator and you can often minimize your damages. But, may I remind you to re-read the chapters where I discuss how to perform inspections and localized treatments. Take another look at those procedures and I'm sure you'll agree that **they are pretty inconvenient, too.**

Before You Order A Fumigation, Here Is What You've Got To Know!

Fumigations are currently the only truly effective method to control all stages of bed bugs.

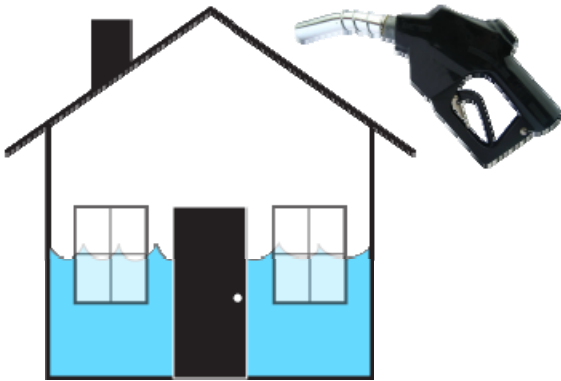
But, I'm also here to tell you that if not done properly, **THEY ARE A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY!** Ladies and gentlemen, I can't emphasize this point enough. Everyone wants to be smart when they are selecting a service and everyone says you should get three bids. That's alright and I have no problem with that. But, when you're collecting bids, you've also got to find out exactly what you're getting for your investment dollar.

One of the most important facts you've got to know is that **with bed bug fumigations, you have to use 3 times the normal amount of Vikane gas.** In other words, if you were having your home fumigated for drywood termites, you would only need to use the regular dosage, which works out to approximately 8 to 10 ounces per thousand cubic feet. But, **when fumigating for bed bugs, you have to triple the dosage** and use approximately 24 to 30 ounces per thousand cubic feet. Please note that these dosage rates will vary. A lot depends on factors, such as size, time of exposure, temperature, wind, foundation type (Is the home built on a slab or does it have a raised foundation?), condition of fumigation tarps and etc. Today, we are required to enter all of these factors (and more) into a special Vikane calculator (No guess work allowed, here!). The calculator will then tell us the precise dosage required. Unfortunately, you have all heard the old cliché, "*Garbage in, garbage out*". That's right! If your fumigator fudges the numbers and doesn't administer the correct amount of Vikane gas, your fumigation won't work and you will have wasted all of your money.

Here is probably the most important question to ask:

**Are Your Fumigators Giving You Estimates For A Full Tank Of Gas?
Or, are they Only Quoting You For Half A Tank Of Gas?**

Take a look at these two pictures of homes and you'll see exactly what I'm talking about. As you can clearly see, the house on your left has only a half tank of gas. The house on your right represents our bid and as you can see, it is completely filled up with gas.



The Other Company's Fume Bid
\$1,600 (Half tank of gas)



"Termite" Terry's Fume Bid
\$1,900 (Full tank of gas)

By looking at these examples of fume bids, can you see why our fume bid would be higher? Of course you can because you can see that we gave you an estimate for a full tank of gas. It's no different than buying gas for your car, is it? The more gallons of gas you buy, the higher the price. Here's a dirty little "*secret*":

**In Order To Compete With Our Lower Prices, Many Other Companies
Have Found It Necessary To Cheat And Use Less Gas In Their Bids!**

Did you know that if everyone carefully measured homes and used as much gas as we do, that most of their bids would be much higher than ours? Unfortunately, most home and business owners are not aware of this dirty little "*secret*". These same people **wrongly** assume that all fumigation tents are the same and all they do is look at the price. What they don't know is that **they are getting a bid for a fumigation that won't work because not enough gas is being used**. Hey, I admit it! Our price will always be higher if we're using twice as much gas and I'm proud to say that! I have no desire to compete with someone that does work like that.

How Do You Know That You're Getting The Right Amount Of Gas?

I'm glad you asked and the answer is simple; **Have your fumigators measure up your home or business and make sure that they put their measurements in writing**. Make sure they explain their measurements, too! But, let me warn you in advance, you'll find that very, very few actually use a measuring wheel or tape measure. In fact, you'll be astonished at the number of fumigators out there that don't know how to measure a building and couldn't calculate your home's measurements if their life depended on it.

At Termite Terry Pest Control, you'll see that we always put our measurements in writing, with your bid. And, if you're concerned about our numbers, please join us and we'll re-measure your home while you watch. We've got nothing to hide and we're proud of our work.

Why Bed Bug Treatments Can Not Be Guaranteed

I'm sure you're probably shocked by hearing me say that because I know if you'll call around and check, you can still find some companies that will offer you a guarantee on their bed bug treatment. I don't know how anyone could possibly guarantee a bed bug treatment. If you'll stop and think about it, scientifically, it would be next to impossible to be able to offer anyone a legitimate guarantee. Let me give you a couple of examples:

Let's say you had a suitcase which was infested. And, let's say you had it treated. Next, you took it to a scientific lab where they were able to prove that all the bed bugs had been completely eliminated. At that point, anyone could guarantee the suitcase to be bed bug free. But, what happens if you place this "bed bug free" suitcase into an infested hotel room? That's right, unless you keep it sealed in a plastic bubble, it may become infested again! Is that the pest control company's fault? No, they did their job. You've got to be fair about it - The pest control company has no control over where you take the suitcase after it is treated.

*Or, let's say we perform the perfect fumigation on **your** house and all of the bed bugs are completely eliminated. That's great! But, what is to keep one of **your** kids from coming home from school, tomorrow, with their backpack full of bed bugs?? Nothing! It is not your fault and it is not your pest control guy's fault that the school has a bed bug problem! And, you certainly can't expect your pest control guy to guarantee a school of which he has never serviced, right?*

By now, I think you have got my point: Even if your pest guy does a perfect job, there is no guarantee that someone won't bring bed bugs back into the house afterwards. That is why no one should ever guarantee bed bug treatments. What can I say? - I can't walk on water and neither can any other bug guy.

How Can You Stay Bed Bug Free After Your Treatment?

That's a great question and my answer is; **RE-READ THIS BOOKLET!** Pay extra attention to the chapter titled, "**How To Prevent Bed Bugs From Becoming A Problem**". Also, re-read the chapter titled, "**How To Travel And Stay Bed Bug Free**". Becoming educated is your best defense against bed bugs.

Do You Need Help With A Bed Bug Problem?

At Termite Terry Pest Control, Inc., we take bed bugs seriously and that is why we offer a full line of services:

- Thorough inspections
- K9 inspections for hard to find problems and regularly scheduled inspections.
- Localized bed bug treatments
- Heat treatments for small areas or entire structures
- Structural fumigations

If you have a problem with bed bugs, **you need to call us at (949) 631-7348** and we'll schedule an inspection at your convenience. Our specialist will give your home or business a thorough audit, give you our recommendations and then, you can decide on what is best for you.

Sincerely,



“Termite” Terry Singleton, President
“Termite” Terry Pest Control, Inc.
(949) 631-7348

ps: Have you been doing your research and still can't decide who to call? I can really appreciate how you feel. That is why we always recommend you find out what “*real customers*” are saying about a company – before you hire them. Here is a rave review from one of our clients;

“We would like to thank you very much for the prompt and expedient service we received after calling you with our bed bug infestation problem. You made it a priority and got your representatives here the same day we contacted you.

We especially would like to commend your Field Representative, David J. Salamin, for his thoroughness and professionalism. He kept in constant contact with us if he was going to be a few minutes late, which we really appreciate. He explained everything he was doing and all that we needed to do. D.J. was both extremely polite and pleasant at all times.

Thank you, too, for going the extra mile and doing some things we know another company would not have done. It will be our pleasure to highly recommend your company and your employees.”

John & Sybil Wilson
Lake Forest