

How to Bed Bug-Proof Your Vacation Rental

We've all heard the saying, "Sleep tight. Don't let the bed bugs bite!" But the last thing you hope to hear is that a renter at your property has been bitten! This can lead to poor reviews, refunds to your visitors or even having to pull your listing altogether. So how do you prevent bed bugs from taking a bite out of your business? It starts with proactive steps you can take as the homeowner.



LEARN

- Bed bugs are hitchhikers: they are transported to new locations by catching rides in travelers' luggage.
- They are most active at night and bite people when they are sleeping.
- Bed bugs have small, flat, oval-shaped bodies that are roughly the size/shape of an apple seed.
- They can survive up to a year without feeding. Just because your property is vacant doesn't mean it's bed bug-free!



PREVENT

- Provide covered laundry hampers in the bathroom to prevent bed bugs from hiding out in clutter.
- Invest in bite-proof polyurethane mattress covers to keep bed bugs from nesting in the mattress.
- Keep luggage off the floor with metal luggage racks.
- Change linens weekly, washing them in hot water (at least 115°) and then drying them on a hot setting.
- Vacuum carpets, baseboards and moldings weekly.



SPOT

- Your guests may report red, itchy bites.
- Inspect bedding, box springs, mattress seams, dusters, curtains, closets, clothing, headboards, baseboards, moldings and crevices in the walls.
- Look for black streaks, bloodstains and shed skins on mattresses or linens. You may even encounter the bed bugs themselves!

DID YOU KNOW?

On average, homeowners spend \$1,000 to \$2,500 to exterminate bed bugs.



Got Bed Bugs? Don't Bug Out!

While high standards of hygiene and housekeeping can help minimize infestations, sometimes bed bugs happen despite your best efforts. If you discover that your property has bed bugs, don't burn the house down!

Here's what you should do instead



CALL

Call a licensed pest control company immediately. A pest control company can determine the extent of the infestation and use registered insecticides to kill the bed bugs.



CLEAN

Gather up bedding, curtains, mattress cover, etc. and wash them in hot water and then dry them on the hottest setting. Remove any clutter from the floor. Scrub mattress seams, headboards and baseboards, then vacuum.



CHECK

Check your insurance policy. Clearing your property of a bed bug infestation can be costly. Be sure your policy offers protection against this unexpected expense and file a claim as necessary.

CBIZ Bed Bug Cleanup and Removal Coverage

Don't let bed bugs take a bite out of your vacation rental success. Optional Bed Bug Cleanup and Removal Coverage from CBIZ covers up to \$17,500 with no deductible in bed bug infestation issues.

Speak with an expert today to get coverage for your business!



Request a Quote

vacationrentalinsurance.cbiz.com | vacationrentalprogram@cbiz.com
855.945.5221 | 700 W. 47TH ST, STE, 1100, KANSAS CITY, MO 64112

