

## **Bed Bug Anatomy**

By DoMyOwn staff

PIN	DING8	
Bed bugs are formidable foes. Their small, fi crevices to lie in weit until night falls and the cover of darkness. They are highly fecund, w lifetime. And they easily ride out tough time	ty can feed on their sleeping victims under ith females laying 150 to 500 eggs in their s: bed bugs can	Detection +Vest sensors in antennae help bed bugs locate horts. The bugs can also detect carshon dioxide. They that incorporate heat and carbon dioxide could have the pests. +Comparends that emanate from the
go is months or more without food. Never discoveries suggest real exponents to be eliminating these pers.		Artual set
Fed Unfed	Deride main generation	Fendera call by a dame og ar with ach
Elimination  In main bid bays shelling parts (see alson) and bad bays shelling parts (see alson) and bad bays shelling parts (see alson) and the deads). Association and addit makes envir phonomous that dear results (matter makes than based on these phonomous call (increase higher than based on these phonomous call (increase higher than based on these phonomous call (increase higher than based on the and that addition that that that the shell that that the shell the shell that the s	Gental	Cory
he abdomen called the ectospermalege much the penetration so that the dam- is less costly. Once inside the female's by cavity, the sperm and any accom- ging pathogens encounter a barrier blood cells loosely organized into an or-	mesospermalege: The sperm must migrate through the mesospermalege to a storage area near the base of each ovary. Yet even with these adaptations, my laboratory col- onies of bed bags drift to male predomi- nance breause of the injuries caused by multiple copulations. Without human in- tervention, the colonies would go extinct.	In the real world, the bed bugs carry on, probably because females disperse to escape damaging copulations. Why have bed bugs taken off on this costly evolu- tions of other insect species have repro- ductive openings that males use to inser- inate them without injury? No colloagues

• Internal Anatomy:

54 Scientific American, February 2012

- Males: Scent glands, testis, intestines
- · Females: Scent glands, intestines, genital chamber, mycetome, ovaries, and ovarioles
- External Anatomy:
  - Bed bugs have three body segments: Head, thorax, and abdomen
  - Two antennae

© 2012 Scientific American

- Two eyes
- Six legs
- Reddish brown in color
- Bright red after being engorged from a blood meal
- Piercing sucking mouth parts, also known as a sharp proboscis, that they insert into the human host's skin
- Differences between sexes:
  - Males have sharpened genitalia
  - Female have a softened abdominal region for copulation
- · Primary source of nourishment
  - Human blood
    - Sometimes other mammal's and bird's blood

## Example of Bed bug Nymph up close:



This nymph picture of a bed bug is noticeably more transparent and lighter colored than the adult forms.



Example of bed bug probing human skin up close:

This is an adult female bed bug on the surface the skin, take special notice to the dark rust color and circular abdomen region. See also: <u>Bed Bug Identification</u>

DoMyOwn.com - Bed Bug Anatomy