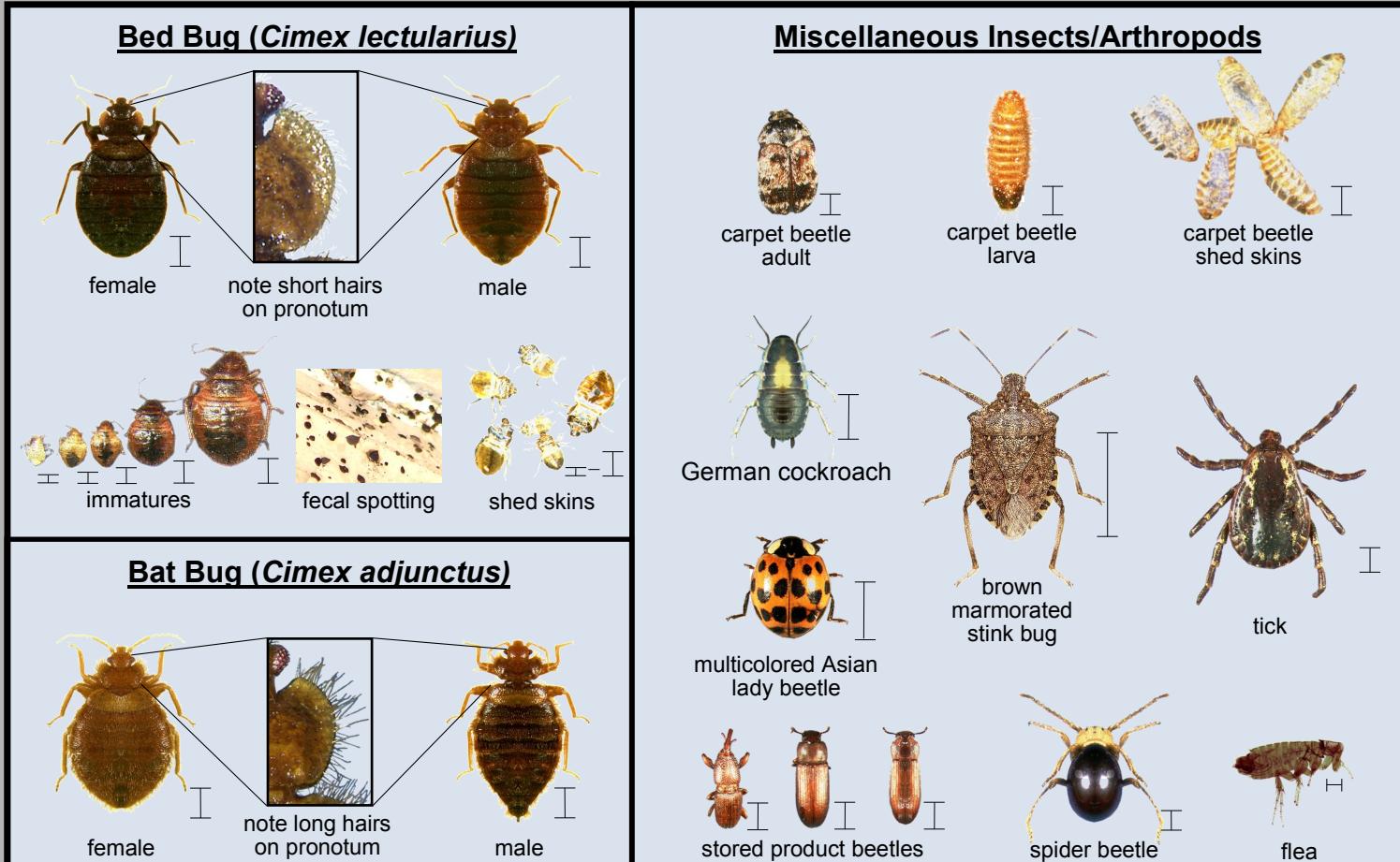


OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Household Insect Identification Card



Scale bar to lower right of each insect indicates actual size.

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Tips for Bed Bug Prevention and Control



Correctly Identify the Insect:

- See photos on reverse
- Contact Ohio State University's Pest Diagnostic Clinic (ppdc.osu.edu)

Bed Bug Habits:

- Prefer to feed at night on human blood
- Hide during the day
- Hide in cracks, crevices and dark places
- Cannot fly, but walk very fast
- Can survive several months without feeding if a host is absent

Inspecting for Bed Bugs:

- Use a bright flashlight
- Look for the bugs and their dark spotting and shed skins (see photos on reverse)
- Carefully inspect bedrooms and main living areas where people rest or sleep, focusing on:
 - * Mattress seams, box springs, and bed frame
 - * Behind hanging pictures, baseboards, moldings, and loosened wallpaper
 - * Inside electronics (e.g., smoke detectors, thermostats, electrical outlets, etc.)
 - * Top, sides, underside, and interior of furniture
 - * Carpet tack strip (underneath carpet edges)

Travelers' Tips:

- **When preparing to leave:**
 - * Travel very light
 - * Put all items into tightly sealed plastic bags inside suitcase
 - * Be sure to take extra plastic bags so you can isolate clean, dirty, and newly purchased clothing
- **During your trip:**
 - * Carefully inspect your room for signs of bed bugs
 - * Change rooms if you find any signs of bed bugs
 - * Never store luggage on the floor or bed
 - * Keep your clothes in your suitcases, not in provided chest-of-drawers
- **When arriving home:**
 - * Do NOT take luggage inside bedrooms or living rooms
 - * If possible, launder all clothing in your luggage
 - * Store empty luggage inside sealed plastic bags

Control:

- Act immediately
- Eliminate clutter
- Caulk or seal cracks and crevices
- Launder bedding, clothes, etc.
 - * Wash in hot water (120°F [49°C] minimum)
 - * Drier set on medium to hot setting (30 minutes minimum)
 - * Confine clean items inside sealed plastic bags
- Do not use "bug bombs"
- Do-it-yourself bed bug control is very difficult
- Consider hiring an exterminator
 - * Make sure the exterminator is licensed
 - * Get at least 3 estimates before choosing an exterminator
 - * Bed bug control takes considerable time and effort