Household Insect Identification Card

Bed Bug (*Cimex lectularius*)
- Female
- Male
- Note short hairs on pronotum
- Immatures
- Fecal spotting
- Shed skins

Bat Bug (*Cimex adjunctus*)
- Female
- Male
- Note long hairs on pronotum

Miscellaneous Insects/Arthropods
- Carpet beetle adult
- Carpet beetle larva
- Carpet beetle shed skins
- German cockroach
- Multicolored Asian lady beetle
- Brown marmorated stink bug
- Stored product beetles
- Spider beetle
- Flea
- Tick

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

Provided by The Ohio State University Extension Integrated Pest Management Program

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