

## What is a bedbug?

Bedbugs are similar to head lice, with oval-shaped bodies, a broad head and no wings. They are usually between five to six millimetres long and can be seen by the naked eye. They cannot fly or jump, but crawl quickly. They live in areas where people live as human blood is their No. 1 food source. They are easily transported by people from one location to another, including across borders. They are not known to transmit disease but some people can have allergic reactions to the bites.

## How do we fight them?

Clint Rosevear, co-owner of Monarch Pest Control, says repeated applications of pesticides, over two-week intervals, can help. Bedbugs, however, are resistant to many pesticides and the pesticides do not kill live eggs.

Rosevear said his company's better method is an extreme heat assault that involves using a



500,000-BTU heater to raise the ambient temperature in homes or businesses to 63 C. That kills both the bugs and their eggs. It can cost upwards of \$2,000 for a typical home but normally requires only one treatment. Homeowners can return the same day and they do not need to remove many belongings from the home ahead of time.

Only things like oil paintings, makeup and candles could melt.