

Bow Bugs

What are Bow Bugs?

If you open your case and:

- The bow hair is EVERYWHERE
- It looks like someone cut your bow hair with scissors

You have bow bugs!!

Bow bugs are related to carpet larvae and are miniscule bugs that have one purpose in life...to eat bow hair! They are tiny and tend to shed their shells, leaving them behind in the crevices of the case. They only appear when a case is left closed for an extended period of time.

Ughh!! That sounds awful! Should I worry?

Bow bugs are tiny and harmless to everything but bow hair. They won't hurt your instrument or anything else in your home. They can appear in any area of the country and in any situation where the instrument is in storage.

How do I get rid of them?

They are very easy to get rid of. Just follow these instructions:

- Take everything out of the case
- Use a whisk broom and/or a vacuum to brush and clean out the case thoroughly, paying extra attention to the seams and creases.
- (Optional) Spray a little bug spray inside the case. (Test a small amount of the material first to make sure that the spray does not discolor or damage the case)
- Set it outside in the sun for a few hours.

These steps will get rid of the bugs and any eggs that might be in the case

How do I keep from getting them again?

Anytime the case is going to be left un-opened for more than two weeks at a time, take the bow out and hang it on a nail on the wall, or set it carefully on a shelf. The trick is to expose the bow to light and air. That will keep the bugs from coming back.