

# VARIED CARPET BEETLE INFO SHEET

## FAST FACTS

- Adult beetles have two sets of wings.
- Female beetles usually lay dozens or hundreds of eggs.
- Most beetles only live for a year.
- Beetles can't see very well, so they communicate using **pheromones**, sounds or vibrations.
- Some beetles aren't considered pests. "Ladybugs" are beetles and are considered to be good luck in many cultures. "Fireflies" and "Lightning bugs" are also beetles. They glow in the dark to communicate.

## General Information

Varied carpet beetles get their name from the rainbow of color on their backs. It can take up to *three years* for them to grow from an egg to an adult. Adult beetles only live between 13 and 44 days!

<b>Size</b>	1/16"	<b>Common Name</b>	Varied Carpet Beetle
<b>Shape</b>	Round	<b>Kingdom</b>	Animalia
<b>Color</b>	Black centers, with white, brown and yellow patches	<b>Phylum</b>	Arthropoda
<b>Legs</b>	6	<b>Class</b>	Insecta
<b>Wings</b>	Yes	<b>Order</b>	Coleoptera
<b>Antenna</b>	Yes	<b>Family</b>	Dermestidae
		<b>Genus Species</b>	Anthrenus verbasci

## Diet

Varied Carpet beetles mostly eat carpet, wool, dead insects, furs, hides, feathers, horns, hair, silk and bones.

## Habitat

Varied carpet beetles are found in attics, wool carpets, tapestries and wall-to-wall carpeting.

## Impact

Varied carpet beetles can ruin clothing, upholstery and carpet by eating it.

## Prevention

\* Since beetles are drawn to fibers, to protect your clothing keep your clothes off the floor, store unused clothing in plastic bags or containers and dry clean clothing before storing it.

To learn more about this and other beetles, visit <http://www.pestworldforkids.org/beetles.html>