

tick removal

Remove ticks immediately. They usually need to attach for 24 hours to transmit Lyme disease. Consult a physician if you remove an engorged deer tick.



Using a tick spoon:

- Place the wide part of the notch on the skin near the tick (hold skin taut if necessary)
- Applying slight pressure downward on the skin, slide the remover forward so the small part of the notch is framing the tick
- Continuous sliding motion of the remover detaches the tick

Using tweezers:

- Grasp the tick close to the skin with tweezers
- Pull gently until the tick lets go

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Maine Center for Disease
Control and Prevention

An Office of the
Department of Health and Human Services

tick ID

KNOW THEM. PREVENT THEM.



Deer Tick (Black-Legged Tick)



nymph



adult male



adult female

(actual size)



nymph

(1/32"–1/16")



adult

(1/8")



engorged adult

(up to 1/2")



Dog Tick



adult male



adult female

(examples are not actual size, dog tick nymphs are rarely found on humans or their pets)



just the facts

Deer Ticks

- Deer ticks may transmit the agents that cause Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis
- **What bites:** nymphs and adult females
- **When:** anytime temperatures are above freezing, greatest risk is spring through fall

Dog Ticks

- Dog ticks do not transmit the agent that causes Lyme disease
- **What bites:** adult females
- **When:** April–August

prevent the bite

- Wear light-colored protective clothing
- Use EPA-approved insect repellent on skin or clothing
- Use caution in tick infested areas
- Perform daily tick checks
- Protect your pets, use repellents, acaricides, and a Lyme disease vaccine for dogs

lyme disease

Ticks usually need to attach for 24 hours to transmit Lyme disease.



Often, people see an expanding red rash (or bull's-eye rash) more than 2 inches across at the site of the tick bite, which may occur within a few days or a few weeks.

Other symptoms include:

- fatigue
- muscle and joint pain
- headache
- fever and chills
- facial paralysis

Deer ticks may also transmit the agents that cause other diseases such as babesia and anaplasmosis.

People that remove an engorged deer tick should consult their physician as quickly as possible.