

# Proper Use of Mosquito Repellent



*Mosquito repellents are one of the most effective ways to prevent mosquito bites and protect against mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus. Learn how to use them safely and effectively.*

## Tips for Pregnant Women & Young Children



**Pregnant and breastfeeding women can safely use EPA-registered repellents, including DEET, if used as directed.**

Do not use oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol (PMD) on **children under 3 years old.**

**Avoid using any insect repellent on infants under 2 months.** Instead, protect them with clothing and physical barriers.

**Dress children** in long sleeves and pants to minimize exposed skin.

**Use mosquito netting** over cribs, strollers, and baby carriers to prevent bites.

**Store repellents safely** out of children's reach.

## General Safety Tips



**Use only EPA-registered repellents** containing ingredients like DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE), or 2-undecanone.

**DEET is safe for use on children aged 2 months** and older when used according to label instructions.

**Always follow label directions** for application, storage, and disposal.



**Apply sunscreen first, then repellent.**

**Avoid combination sunscreen-repellent products** as they may lead to overexposure.

## KEY REMINDER:

Repellents reduce the risk of mosquito bites, but combining them with other prevention methods like wearing long sleeves, using window screens, and removing standing water offers the best protection.

# Proper Use of Mosquito Repellent

*Mosquito repellents are one of the most effective ways to prevent mosquito bites and protect against mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus. Learn how to use them safely and effectively.*



**Seek EPA-registered repellents** with DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or 2-undecanone.

**Select the lowest effective concentration** based on the duration spent outdoors.

**Carefully follow label instructions** for storage and disposal.



**If using sunscreen, apply it first,** then the insect repellent.

**Avoid combination sunscreen-repellent products.**

## Tips for Pregnant Women & Young Children



**Pregnant or nursing women can safely use EPA-approved repellents** if applied according to the label instructions.

**For kids under 3,** refrain from using oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Dress infants or small children in clothing that **fully covers their arms and legs.**

**Avoid applying insect repellent to babies** younger than 2 months.

**Store repellents out of children's reach.**

**Use mosquito netting** to cover cribs, strollers, or baby carriers.



## KEY REMINDER:

Repellents reduce the risk of mosquito bites, but combining them with other prevention methods like wearing long sleeves, using window screens, and removing standing water offers the best protection.