

DEER TICK

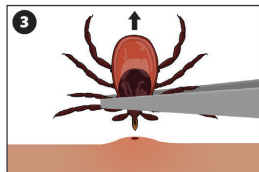
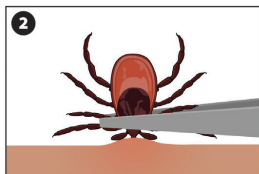
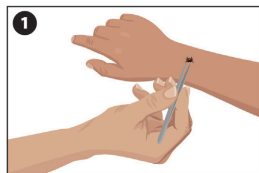
(Ixodes scapularis)

Blacklegged ticks are small, brown ticks that can carry Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, and Powassan disease. They are found in wooded areas and can attach to humans and animals.



Tick Removal Steps

- Remove the tick as soon as possible to reduce your chance of getting an infection from the tick bite.
- Use clean, fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick's head as close to the skin as possible.
- Gently pull the tick upward with slow, steady pressure.
- Disinfect the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.



Prevent Tick Bites

- Use insect repellent
- Wear long sleeves and pants
- Avoid wooded and brushy areas
- Check for ticks after being outdoors

Symptoms

Symptoms usually begin within one month of exposure. Please visit your healthcare provider if you experience any of these symptoms:

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Joint pain
- "Bull's-eye" rash



Tick Life Cycle

- The lifecycle of blacklegged ticks generally lasts two years.
- During this time, they go through four life stages: egg, six-legged larva, eight-legged nymph, and adult.
- After the eggs hatch, the ticks must have a blood meal at every stage to survive.
- Blacklegged ticks can feed from mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. The ticks need to have a new host at each stage of their life.

