

HOUSE MOSQUITO



Mosquito bites pose a considerable health risk, with mosquito-borne diseases causing millions of deaths a year worldwide. [Malaria](#), one of the most commonly known diseases unique to mosquitos, killed around [438,000 people](#) globally in 2015.

However, a person can take preventive measures to keep them at bay.

Children and people with weakened immune systems can experience extra symptoms, such as [hives](#), swollen glands, and low-grade [fever](#).

According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology (AAAAI), a mosquito bite might cause [anaphylaxis](#) in rare cases. This is a potentially life-threatening condition that causes throat swelling, hives, faintness, or wheezing.

Anaphylaxis requires [immediate medical attention](#).

The risk of developing a serious disease is the most dangerous outcome of a mosquito bite.

There are several harmful infections that mosquitoes can carry and transmit, including:

- **Malaria:** Parasites cause this life-threatening disease by infecting and destroying red blood cells. To control and treat malaria, early diagnosis is crucial.
- **West Nile virus:** Most people with [West Nile Virus](#) show no symptoms, although some develop a fever or other flu-like symptoms. For a small number of people with the virus, a serious illness develops in the nervous system.
- **Zika virus:** This is a generally mild condition that initially causes fever, joint pain, and rash. The initial symptoms of [Zika](#) usually pass after 1 week, but the disease can lead to congenital anomalies if a woman becomes pregnant after receiving a mosquito bite.
- **Yellow fever:** This virus causes [inflammation](#) in the brain and spinal cord. Its symptoms include fever and [sore throat](#).
- **Dengue fever:** This disease can trigger high fever, rash, muscle soreness, and joint pain. In the most extreme cases, severe bleeding, shock, and death can occur. Dengue fever is mostly active in tropical and sub-tropical regions.
- **Chikungunya:** Joint pain, [headache](#), rash, and fever are common in chikungunya. People with the disease require bed rest and fluids for recovery.

If a person notices a mosquito bite and feels any flu-like symptoms or a fever, they should seek medical treatment immediately.

Risk factors

1.GET RID OF STAGNANT WATER

Make sure there's no standing water anywhere — on toys left out on the lawn, plates under your flowerpots or garbage in an open can. Ponds, kiddie pools and improperly drained yards can also attract mosquitoes.

"Something as small as a bottle cap can be a breeding spot for mosquitoes," says Jim Fredericks, Ph.D., chief entomologist for the National Pest Management Association. "The good thing is that they can't fly very far, so if you can eliminate breeding spots on your property, you can greatly reduce the number of mosquitoes near your house."

To avoid a catastrophe at your next picnic, do your best to drain any standing water in the yard, empty kiddie pools or buckets and keep your guests away from ponds or other permanent fresh water sources. One watery area you don't have to worry about, though, is your swimming pool — as long as it's chlorinated and the filter is working, mosquitoes will buzz right on by.

2. HIRE A PRO TO CHECK FOR HIDDEN SPOTS

An exterminator can inspect areas such as gutters, which can collect water and become a prime breeding spot. While you're at it, assess your window screens and replace any that are ripped, broken or not fitting properly — especially if you live in a humid southern state.

3. MAKE NATURAL REPELENTS PART OF YOUR LANDSCAPE

Some plants actually produce defensive chemicals to deter hungry animals (like deer) that will also ward off insects. But, these repellents aren't usually released unless the plant is actually harmed. So if you fill your yard with species like citronella, make sure to rough 'em up before your next party. Or if you have a deer problem, let the deer feed!

REMOVE YARD DEBRIS

We urge homeowners to be aware of areas where debris collects in the yard, such as grass clippings and piles of leaves.

Get those twigs and leaves and branches that have piled up in the corner of your yard or against the fence. Get them out of there because they become a point source for mosquito breeding.