

Properly Removing a Tick

Avoid handling ticks with uncovered fingers; use tweezers or commercial tools designed for removal.

Place the tips of tweezers or edges of other removal devices around the head, near the area where the mouthparts enter the skin.



Gently pull the tick away from the skin or slide the removal device along the skin. Do not jerk, crush, squeeze or puncture the tick.

After removal, place the tick directly into a sealable container.

Wash your hands after handling the tick and disinfect the area around the bite site.

Keep the tick alive for a month in case symptoms of a tick-borne disease develop. Place it in a labeled (date, patient), sealed bag or vial with a lightly moistened paper towel then store at refrigerator temperature.