

# Common Ticks in California



Ticks are often found in areas with grass, shrubs, logs, large rocks, or fallen leaves. Brown dog ticks can be found in or around the home and in dog kennels.



**Female**

**Male**



**Western blacklegged tick**  
*Ixodes pacificus*



**Pacific Coast tick**  
*Dermacentor occidentalis*



**American dog tick**  
*Dermacentor similis*



**Brown dog tick**  
*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*

**Actual size:**

**Check for ticks!**



Western blacklegged tick



**Female**



**Male**



**Nymph**



**Blood-fed  
adult**

# Ticks can spread disease!



**Western  
blacklegged tick**



**Lyme disease,  
anaplasmosis,  
relapsing fever**

**Pacific Coast tick  
American dog tick**



**spotted fever,  
tularemia**

**Brown dog tick**



**spotted fever**

**Find a tick on you?**

**Brush it off**

**Is the tick attached  
to your skin?**

**Remove it right away**



- 1 Use tweezers to grab the tick as close to your skin as possible.**
- 2 Pull the tick firmly, straight out, and away from your skin (DO NOT twist, burn, or smother the tick).**
- 3 Wash your hands and the bite area with soap and water after the tick is removed.**
- 4 See a doctor if you develop a rash or flu-like symptoms within 30 days after a tick bite.**

**Learn more: [go.cdph.ca.gov/ticks](https://go.cdph.ca.gov/ticks)**

**Questions? Contact your local vector  
control or public health agency**

