

MOSQUITO BITE SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT



When a mosquito bites you, it pierces the skin using a special mouthpart (proboscis) to suck up blood. As the mosquito is feeding, it injects saliva into your skin. Your body reacts to the saliva resulting in a bump and itching.

Some people have only a mild reaction to a bite or bites. Other people react more strongly, and a large area of swelling, soreness, and redness can occur.

Symptoms

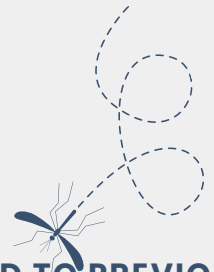


MOSQUITO BITE SIGNS INCLUDE:

- A PUFFY AND REDDISH BUMP APPEARING A FEW MINUTES AFTER THE BITE.
- A HARD, ITCHY, REDDISH-BROWN BUMP, OR MULTIPLE BUMPS APPEARING A DAY OR SO AFTER THE BITE OR BITES
- SMALL BLISTERS INSTEAD OF HARD BUMPS
- DARK SPOTS THAT LOOK LIKE BRUISES

MORE SEVERE REACTIONS CAN OCCUR IN:

- CHILDREN
- ADULTS BITTEN BY A MOSQUITO SPECIES THEY HAVEN'T BEEN EXPOSED TO PREVIOUSLY
- PEOPLE WITH IMMUNE SYSTEM DISORDERS



Treatment

- WASH THE AREA WITH SOAP AND WATER.
- APPLY AN ICE PACK FOR 10 MINUTES TO REDUCE SWELLING AND ITCHING. REAPPLY ICE PACK AS NEEDED.
- APPLY A MIXTURE OF BAKING SODA AND WATER, WHICH CAN HELP REDUCE THE ITCH RESPONSE. MIX 1 TABLESPOON BAKING SODA WITH JUST ENOUGH WATER TO CREATE A PASTE. APPLY THE PASTE TO THE MOSQUITO BITE. WAIT 10 MINUTES. WASH OFF THE PASTE.
- USE AN OVER-THE-COUNTER ANTI-ITCH OR ANTIHISTAMINE CREAM TO HELP RELIEVE ITCHING. FOLLOW THE PRODUCT LABEL DIRECTIONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOSQUITO BITE SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT, VISIT:
[HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/MOSQUITOES/MOSQUITO-BITES/SYMPTOMS.HTML](https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/mosquito-bites/symptoms.html)



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