

What does a tick look like ?



The tiny spot on the arm is the tick looking for a suitable feeding point. Try brushing it off.

Once the tick has penetrated the skin a reddish area can be seen. Remove the tick with tweezers.

The first picture shows the tick soon after it has found a host, this one is the arm of a person. At this stage, if spotted, it probably can be brushed off with a hand.

The second picture is the next stage when the tick has burrowed its head into the skin and is getting ready to feed. The area around the penetration reddens and, if left alone, the tick will swell up with the blood it is sucking. Removal should be with tweezers, by locating very near the skin and twisting anti-clockwise and upwards. It is useful to keep the tick, just in case you develop symptoms of Lyme's Disease. Put the tick on the sticky side of Sellotape and stick it to a piece of paper, mark it up with the date, time and location of where you think you may have caught the tick.

It is unlikely that you will contract Lyme's Disease but look out for an expanding reddish, round rash in the area of the bite. This rash starts three to thirty days later. Further symptoms may resemble 'flu, with swollen glands near the site, mild headaches, aching muscles and joints, and tiredness. See your doctor, and take your tick with you for reference purposes.