

House Spider



Appearance:

Typically brown or tan with various markings; the body ranges up to 3/8-inch in length, with a spherical abdomen.

Habitat:

This is the spider most commonly found indoors. It is more of a nuisance than a threat, probably more because of its webs than the spider itself. Indoors, house spiders are most likely to be found in upper corners, under furniture, in closets, around window frames, and in basements, garages and crawl spaces. If a web does not yield prey it is abandoned and new site selected. Eventually, successful webs are constructed where air currents bring in prey. Due to their low humidity and few insects, modern homes have fewer spider control problems than in the past. Spider control is more an issue in garages, sheds, barns and warehouses.

Diet:

Like all spiders, house spiders are predators that will kill and eat almost any insect.

Solutions:

What you can do: The likelihood of introducing spiders within structures and encountering them in and around buildings can be reduced by: (1) eliminating tall and dense vegetation close to the foundation which serve as harborage for spiders and their prey (e.g., vines, groundcover, juniper, uncut grass and weeds), (2) excluding gaps under doors (by replacing or adding door sweeps), lower courses of siding, around utility penetrations and weep holes in brick veneer, (3) capturing wandering spiders on ground level, in basements and in attached garages by placing sticky traps indoors along walls behind furniture, washer, dryer, sump pump, water heater, furnace, commode, and storage (out of reach of children and pets), and (4) removal using a shop vacuum cleaner or household vacuum fitted with a hose attachment; this is useful for removing spider webs as well.

Professional Solution: A Quik-Kill service technician will apply an exterior barrier treatment around the foundation perimeter, beneath lower siding, under eaves and porticos, along exterior molding/trim, thresholds, patio, deck and chimney attachments, as well as inside and around sheds and other outbuildings. A regular pest management service program may be required in cases where large populations of spiders are present and where landscaping conditions and locality are conducive to their propagation. Indoors, basement sillplates and perimeters, as well as the corners and edges of spider-infested rooms, can be treated.



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