



# How To Get Rid of Spiders

By DoMyOwn staff

Getting rid of Spiders requires a combination of both chemical and non-chemical measures. Think of non-chemical measures (such as vacuuming, sanitation, harborage removal, and exclusion) as limiting or removing conditions that contribute to the infestation. These measures are largely preventative. The next step is to come in with the real ammunition-chemical pesticides-that do the job of physically wiping out an infestation.

## Inspection

A quick inspection of the premises can help you zero in on areas where spiders are hiding, and where to focus the majority of your efforts. Keep in mind that spiders often build webs in and around boxes and piles of clutter, inside wall voids, and under insulation. Long gloves, in addition to long sleeves and pants, should always be worn when conducting a careful inspection.

## Step 1) Non-Chemical Measures for Spider Control

- **Sanitation:** Spiders are often attracted to a building, home, or other structure by favorable conditions and hiding places surrounding the exterior. The following sanitation practices are recommended to remove spider harborages:
  - Piles of lumber, firewood, stones, boards, or other debris should be moved as far from the home or structure as possible, stored off the ground, and covered with plastic.
  - Heavy vegetations such as ivy should be cut away from the foundation.
  - Tall grasses should be regularly cut short.
  - Improve storages in basements and garages by storing items off the floor and away from the wall; reducing clutter also limits available harborages
- **Spider Removal:** Existing spiders, webs, and egg sacs can be removed by way of a vacuum when they are spotted during an inspection. After vacuuming spiders, the vacuum bag should be removed immediately after finishing and sealed in a plastic bag before being discarded in an outdoor garbage receptacle.
- **Exclusion & Lighting:** Any cracks or gaps in the building exterior or surrounding window and door frames should be sealed with caulk or fine wire mesh in order to prevent entry. Doors should be fitted with weather strips on the bottom and all vents should contain tight-fitting screens. Outdoor lighting should utilize bulbs that attract fewer flying insects, reducing food available to spiders.

## Step 2) Chemical Treatments for Spider Control

- **Contact Sprays:** A non-residual aerosol insecticide can be sprayed directly on spiders to eliminate live spiders. This treatment is a quicker and easier alternative to vacuuming. [565 PLUS XLO](#) and [CB-80 Extra](#) are ideal flushing and contact agents spiders and just about every other pest you could have a problem with.
- **Dust Applications:** A dust agent (we recommend [Delta Dust Insecticide](#) or [Drione Dust](#)) is an ideal treatment for out-of-the-way areas where infestations are especially heavy, such as attics, basements, crawl spaces, sill plate areas, and wall voids. For application to these and other areas, follow the directions found on the product label. Application to wall voids may require a [Hand Duster](#).
- **Spot Treatments:** A liquid residual (like [Demon WP Insecticide](#), Suspend SC, or Demand CS) can be sprayed in corners, behind and under furniture, behind stored items, and on or around other areas where spiders are found using a [One Gallon Sprayer](#). The insecticide residual will both kill existing spiders and prevent new spiders from building their webs.
- **Exterior Treatments:** Before sealing cracks in the exterior walls of the building, treat these openings with a residual dust ([Delta Dust Insecticide](#) or [Drione Dust](#)) to prevent spiders from entering in the future.

## Practices to Avoid Possible Spider Bites

If the infestation is severe, then before applying any treatment you should familiarize yourself and others who may be living or working in the building with practices to avoid spider bites, as the initial response of spiders after treatment may be to move about and become more active in response to the presence of chemicals.

- Store shoes and clothing in sealed plastic bags inside drawers or inside plastic storage compartments hanging in closets.
- Shoes and clothing not stored in plastic bags should be shaken well before wearing.
- Beds should be moved out away from walls and curtains.

- Bed skirts should be removed and any bedspread used should not come in contact with the floor.
- Always inspect bedding before getting into bed.

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