



SPIDER

IDENTIFICATION CHART

KC METRO

02/10

2026 EDITION

Two spiders in KC matter medically. Learn those two – and relax about the rest.

MEDICALLY IMPORTANT IN KC**Recluse & black widow**

Both are native to the metro. Everything else on this chart is harmless or a minor bite.

SPIDER SEASON**Year-round indoors**

Wolf & house spiders wander in most during late summer & fall mating season.

J F M A M J J A S O N D

RECLUSE CHECK**Violin mark + 6 eyes**

Plain tan-brown legs with no bands or spines; three pairs of eyes; body under 1/2".

SPIDERS FOLLOW FOOD**Fix the insect problem**

A spider problem is usually an insect problem. We treat both – no fogging.

**BROWN RECLUSE**

Loxosceles reclusa · 1/4–1/2" **NECROTIC BITE**

- Violin mark behind the head; 6 eyes in 3 pairs
- Plain tan-brown legs – no bands, stripes or spines

Where: Closets, boxes, attics, basements, storage

**BLACK WIDOW**

Latrodectus mactans · 1/2" **VENOMOUS BITE**

- Shiny black; red hourglass on the belly
- Tangled web near the ground; hangs upside down

Where: Woodpiles, meter boxes, crawl spaces, decks

**WOLF SPIDER**

Lycosidae · 1/2–1 3/8" **PAINFUL BITE**

- Large, hairy, brown with dark stripes; no web
- Fast; female carries egg sac & spiderlings

Where: Basements, garages, ground-level doors

**YELLOW SAC SPIDER**

Cheiracanthium spp. · 1/4" **PAINFUL BITE**

- Pale yellow-green with dark feet
- Silk sacs at wall-ceiling joints; bites if trapped

Where: Ceiling corners, curtains, bedding, pictures

**COMMON HOUSE SPIDER**

Parasteatoda tepidariorum · 1/4" **HARMLESS**

- Dull brown, mottled, round abdomen
- Builds the classic messy cobweb in corners

Where: Window corners, basements, sheds, eaves

**CELLAR SPIDER**

Pholcidae · 1/4" **HARMLESS**

- Tiny body, extremely long thin legs; bounces in its web
- Eats other spiders – including recluses

Where: Basements, crawl spaces, garage ceilings

**BOLD JUMPING SPIDER**

Phidippus audax · 1/2" **HARMLESS**

- Fuzzy black, white spots, green fangs
- Daylight hunter that jumps; curious, not aggressive

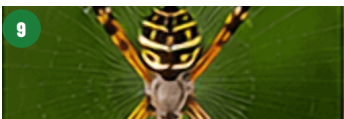
Where: Window sills, siding, decks, gardens

**GRASS SPIDER**

Agelenopsis spp. · 1/2–3/4" **HARMLESS**

- Brown with two dark stripes; long rear spinnerets
- Sheet web with a funnel retreat; rarely bites

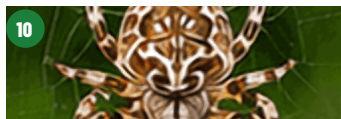
Where: Lawns, shrubs, window wells, foundations

**YELLOW GARDEN SPIDER**

Argiope aurantia · 3/4–1 1/8" **BENEFICIAL**

- Bold black & yellow; zig-zag band in a big orb web
- Eats grasshoppers, wasps, mosquitoes

Where: Gardens, shrubs, porch rails (late summer)

**ORB WEAVER**

Araneidae · 1/2–1" **BENEFICIAL**

- Round, often spotted abdomen; wheel-shaped web rebuilt nightly
- Most obvious Aug-Oct near porch lights

Where: Porch lights, eaves, deck rails, gardens

**FISHING SPIDER**

Dolomedes spp. · 1–3" span **HARMLESS**

- Very large, gray-brown with banded legs
- Often mistaken for a wolf spider; lives near water

Where: Ponds, creeks, lake homes, wet basements

**NOT SURE WHICH SPIDER?**

Snap a clear photo, note where you saw it, and text it to us. A licensed pro identifies it – free.

(913) 738-STAR
CALL OR TEXT · 7827

+ SPIDER BITE FIRST AID

- ✓ Wash with soap and water; ice 10 minutes on, 10 off
- ✓ Keep the limb still and raised; don't cut, suck or apply heat
- ✓ Watch 24–72 hrs for spreading redness, a blister, fever or muscle cramps
- ✓ Recluse or widow suspected, or symptoms worsening – see a doctor; bring the spider or a photo

? RECLUSE OR LOOK-ALIKE?**BROWN RECLUSE**

- 6 eyes in 3 pairs; dark violin on the back
- Plain legs – no bands, spines or stripes
- Body 1/4–1/2"; abdomen one color

**LOOK-ALIKES**

- 8 eyes; striped or banded legs; spines
- Patterned abdomen (wolf, grass, house)
- Bigger than a quarter with legs

Recluses are common in older KC homes. Sticky monitors tell us how many you have; we treat cracks, voids and storage areas and seal entry points.

CALL OR TEXT · GUARANTEED SERVICE. GUARANTEED RESULTS.

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ALLSTARPESTKC.COM | INFO@ALLSTARPESTKC.COM

LOCALLY OWNED ★ 30+ YEARS

Joe Cusic, Owner & Licensed Applicator

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SERVING THE KANSAS CITY METRO



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US A PEST
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Free ID from a
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