2) Check yourself and your family for ticks.
   - Check daily during the warmer months of the year.
   - Use tweezers to grab ticks close to the skin. Gently pull straight up.
   - Avoid squeezing, burning, or smothering ticks.

3) In Arizona and Sonora, consider treating around the outside of your home with a pesticide labeled for ticks spring through fall.
   - Follow pesticide label instructions on how to apply products correctly.
   - Use all recommended personal protective equipment (PPE).

4) Kill ticks on dogs using one of the following:
   - Topical (spot-on) treatments
   - Oral medications
   - A tick collar

5) Wear gloves when applying tick treatments. Follow label directions regarding how often you should repeat treatments.

6) When outdoors, wear long pants and sleeves, and use an EPA-registered tick repellent.

For more information, view: https://extension.arizona.edu/pubs/az1769-2018.pdf

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This information has been reviewed by University faculty.

extension.arizona.edu/pubs/az1393-2021.pdf
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Brown dog ticks and Rocky Mountain spotted fever

Fit a long-lasting dog collar for tick control.

Grab the tick's head and pull straight up.

Apply tick repellents if going into areas that may have ticks.

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This information has been reviewed by university faculty.
A brown dog tick bite can transmit Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF) in Arizona and northwest Mexico. RMSF is a serious disease. This tick mainly feeds on blood from dogs. It will also feed on people.

**Identification and life cycle**
Brown dog ticks go through four life stages – egg, six-legged larva, eight-legged nymph, and adult.

After hatching a tick must take a blood meal at every stage to survive. Between each stage, the tick sheds its outer skeleton and grows larger.

Brown dog ticks feed on a new host animal at each stage of their life.

**Signs and symptoms of RMSF**
Symptoms of RMSF appear 3-12 days after a bite from an infected tick.

**IF YOU HAVE**
- FEVER
- HEADACHE
- RASH
- STOMACH PAIN
- NAUSEA
- VOMITING
- LOSS OF APPETITE
- MUSCLE PAIN

**SEE YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY**
RMSF can be DEADLY if left untreated, but is easily treated with antibiotics.

**How to reduce tick bites**
1) Brown dog ticks spend most of their lives resting in protected places off their host animal.
   - Reduce clutter from around the outside or under your home. This reduces tick resting places.
   - Remove tall grasses, brush, and leaf litter around your home.
   - Wash pet bedding and vacuum inside your home regularly. This will kill or remove ticks looking for a host.