Lyme Disease Tick Test Kit
A Step-by-Step Guide

SAMEDAY RESULTS AVAILABLE

Rapid Tick Screen for Lyme Disease Bacteria by PCR

Test a tick for the presence of Borrelia burgdorferi, the bacterium that causes Lyme disease, and other tick-borne pathogens.

EMSL's easy-to-use Lyme Disease Tick Test Kit includes everything needed to safely collect and submit a tick specimen to our accredited laboratory for analysis. Follow the simple steps below to complete your test. No special tools or experience required.

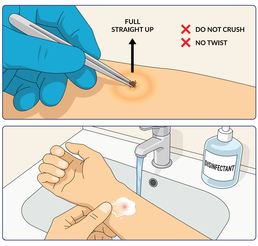
STEP 1
Getting Started

- Carefully open your EMSL Lyme Disease Tick Test Kit and confirm all components are present.
- Read the instruction card completely before collecting your sample.

You Will Need

- Fine-tip tweezers
- Sterile gloves (or plastic bag as gloves)
- Pen or marker
- Access to mailbox or UPS/FedEx drop-off

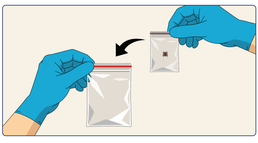
STEP 2
Remove the Tick



- Before handling the tick, have the following ready: fine-tip tweezers, sterile gloves (or a plastic bag to use as gloves), and several small sealable plastic bags.
- Wear gloves before handling the tick. If gloves are unavailable, use a plastic bag over your hand. Using fine-tip tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible.
- Pull straight back steadily. Do not twist or crush, tick body fluid may contain bacteria.
- After removal, wash the bite area with disinfectant and wash hands with soap and warm water.

! Do not twist, squeeze, or crush the tick during removal. Tick body fluid can contain the Lyme disease bacterium and may affect test results.

STEP 3
Seal the Tick Specimen



- Place the tick into a small sealable plastic bag and seal it.
- Place that sealed bag into a second sealable bag and seal again.
- Keep the specimen intact. Do not crush or damage the tick.

Double-bagging helps protect the specimen during shipping and prevents contamination.

STEP 4
Label the Sample

- Label the sealed specimen with a sample number or name, the date the tick was collected, and where on the body it was found.
- If the tick was removed from a person or pet, note their name on the label.

Accurate labeling ensures your sample matches your data sheet and avoids delays in reporting.

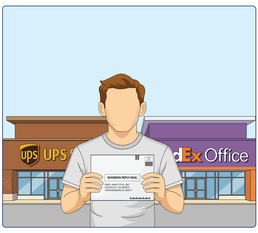
STEP 5
Complete the Sample Data Sheet

- Complete the Lyme Disease Tick Testing Data Sheet fully and legibly.
- Include your name, address, phone, email, and a sample number or name for each tick.
- Select your preferred turnaround time and reporting method.
- Include payment information as required.

TURNAROUND TIMES: Refer to the instruction card in your kit for turnaround time options and pricing.

! Incomplete forms may delay processing and reporting.

STEP 6
Package & Ship Your Sample



- Place the sealed specimen and completed data sheet into the prepaid return envelope.
- Seal securely and ship to EMSL for laboratory analysis.
- For 6-hour or 24-hour turnaround, submit via overnight delivery (UPS or FedEx).

- ✔ Sample container sealed and included
- ✔ Data sheet completed
- ✔ Turnaround time selected
- ✔ Envelope sealed and shipped

! Ship promptly after collection. Delays between collection and submission can affect specimen integrity.

STEP 7
Receive Your Results

- Your report will be delivered by email.
- Results will indicate whether Borrelia burgdorferi was detected.
- If a pathogen is detected, consult a healthcare or veterinary professional for the appropriate next steps.

A positive result means the tick carried the bacterium. It does not confirm that the person or pet bitten has contracted the disease. Consult a medical professional for guidance.

EMSL ANALYTICAL, INC.
TESTING LABS • PRODUCTS • TRAINING

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⚠ *Keep Out of Reach of Children and Pets*

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