

Common spider ID chart

Spider	Web	Key features	Caution
Cross orbweaver (European garden spider)	orb	brown/orange with a white cross of spots on the abdomen	Harmless
Yellow garden spider	orb	black and yellow, large; zigzag band (stabilimentum) in web	Harmless
Barn spider / other orbweavers	orb	brown, hairy, rounded abdomen	Harmless
Common house spider	cobweb	brownish, round abdomen with chevron markings	Harmless
Black widow	cobweb	shiny black, round abdomen; red hourglass underneath (females)	Medically significant
Noble false widow	cobweb	dark brown, bulbous abdomen with cream markings	May cause reaction
Brown recluse	irregular	plain tan; dark violin shape on the head area; six eyes in pairs	Medically significant
Grass spider / funnel weaver	funnel	brown with two dark stripes on the head area; long spinnerets	Harmless
Giant house spider	funnel	large, brown, long hairy legs	Harmless
Cellar spider (daddy long-legs spider)	irregular	tiny pale body, extremely long thin legs; vibrates web when disturbed	Harmless
Money spider (sheet weaver)	sheet	tiny, dark, shiny	Harmless
Wolf spider	no web	brown/grey, hairy, stripes; large eyes in rows; females carry egg sac or babies	Harmless
Bold jumping spider	no web	black with white spots, iridescent green fangs; big front eyes	Harmless
Zebra jumping spider	no web	black and white stripes; big front eyes; jumps	Harmless
Crab spider (flower spider)	no web	crab-like, front legs held out; white, yellow or pink, sits on flowers	Harmless
Nursery web spider	no web	long, slim, brown with a pale central stripe	Harmless
Fishing spider	no web	large, brown/grey with pale markings; near water	Harmless
Yellow sac spider	no web	pale yellow-beige, darker jaws; builds silk sacs, not webs	May cause reaction
Green lynx spider	no web	bright green, spiny legs	Harmless
Tarantula	no web	very large and hairy, heavy body	May cause reaction

General guide only.