

MONKEYPOX

Get informed, stay safe.



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

If you have symptoms or medical concerns about monkeypox, contact your local health department or healthcare provider.

If You Test Positive

If your monkeypox test result is positive, or if you are waiting for your test results, stay **isolated and take precautions**. People can spread monkeypox from the time symptoms start until all symptoms have resolved, including complete healing of the rash with formation of a fresh layer of skin. Ideally, people with monkeypox should remain in isolation for the duration of illness, which typically lasts **two to four weeks**.

To prevent the spread of monkeypox, do the following:

- Stay fully isolated and avoid close or physical contact with other people and animals. Full isolation is most important when fever, sore throat and respiratory symptoms are present. If it is not possible to isolate or if necessary to leave the home for medical or emergency care:
 - Cover the lesions, wear a well-fitting mask and avoid public transportation when leaving the home as required for medical care or an emergency.
 - Wear a well-fitting mask.
 - Avoid public transportation.
- Until all signs and symptoms of monkeypox illness have fully resolved:
 - Do not share items that have been worn or handled with other people or animals. Launder or disinfect items that have been worn or handled and surfaces that have been touched by a lesion.
 - Avoid close physical contact, including sexual and/or close intimate contact, with other people.
 - Avoid sharing utensils or cups. Items should be cleaned and disinfected before use by others.
 - Avoid crowds and congregate settings.
 - Wash hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially after direct contact with the rash.
- Monkeypox may spread from people to animals through close contact. This includes pets, livestock and wildlife.
 - Until more is known about possible spread to animals, do not snuggle, hug, kiss or share sleep areas or food with any animals while you have any symptoms. Do not let your pets lick you.
 - When possible, have another household member take care of your animals. If that is not possible, wash hands before and after caring for your animals. Also, wear gloves, a mask and cover rashes when feeding and caring for your animals.

For more information about monkeypox and pets, visit the CDC website: [Pets in the Home | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC](#)

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