

# Difference Between Dengue Mosquito and Normal Mosquito

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## Key Difference - Dengue Mosquito vs Normal Mosquito

[Mosquitoes](#) are small flies belonging to the family of Culicidae. They often resemble the crane flies and chironomid flies. The females of the mosquitoes depend on a [blood](#) meal, and they are vectors of dangerous [diseases](#). However many species of the mosquitoes are not blood eaters. Concerning on disease transmission, few species are economically important such as [Aedes](#), [Anopheles](#) and [Culex](#). There are around 3500 identified species of mosquitoes. The mosquito species *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes albopictus* are responsible for transmitting the disease [Dengue](#). Other than that *Aedes aegypti* can transmit yellow fever and Chikungunya too. **The dengue mosquito is small and has white bands on its legs and has silver-white scales on the body whereas the normal mosquito is considerably large and lacks white bands on its legs. And also it lacks silver-white scales on the body.** This is the **key difference** between dengue mosquito and normal mosquito.

## What is Dengue Mosquito?

The dengue mosquito is a mosquito that is categorized under genera *Aedes*. Dengue mosquito is small in size and has white bands on its legs. It carries the dengue virus in its saliva. The dengue transmission has been increased since 1940, and it is due to the female mosquitoes of *Aedes aegypti*. The mosquito species *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes albopictus* are responsible for the transmission the dengue disease. These mosquito bites create a high fever, [headache](#), skin rash, muscle and joint pain. Generally, in severe cases, it is called as dengue “hemorrhagic fever”. Usually, the female mosquito is responsible for the dengue transmission since they depend on blood meals.

These mosquitoes are typically found in the tropical and subtropical areas. The female dengue mosquito acts as a vector which transmits dengue virus between an already infected person and a normal person through its saliva. They favour the winter temperature but not colder than 10 °C. And these particular mosquitoes do not live in latitudes above 1000m. The *Aedes aegypti* male mosquito is smaller than the female counterpart. The dengue mosquito lives indoors and lays eggs in stagnant water.



**Figure 01: Dengue Mosquito**

The interesting fact about the dengue mosquito is that they bite during the daylight time. According to the statistics of world health organisation, 10,000 to 20,000 die of dengue hemorrhagic fever annually. Approximately, 50 to 528 millions of people are infected annually by the dengue virus. So, the study of dengue mosquito's life cycle aspects is extremely important to minimise the dengue fever.

## **What is Normal Mosquito?**

The normal mosquito is the midge-like fly that is categorized under the family of *Culicidae* that lacks dengue viral particles in its saliva. Most of the females of many species are ectoparasites. Through their proboscis, they pierce the host's skin and suck blood. They can attack [vertebrates as well as invertebrates](#). Though they bite the skin of the host, they do not transmit diseases such as dengue as these normal female mosquitoes are lacking viral particles which cause dengue in their saliva. The normal male mosquitoes feed on [nectar](#).



**Figure 02: Normal Mosquito**

The life cycle has complete [metamorphosis](#) with four main stages; egg, [larva](#), [pupa](#) and adult. The normal mosquito lives in cold weather as well as hot weather conditions. And they typically live in indoors as well as outdoors. The mosquito bites can be observed both during the daytime and nighttime.

## **What are the Similarities Between Dengue Mosquito and Normal Mosquito?**

- Both types are under the family of *Culicidae*.
- The female counterparts of normal, as well as dengue mosquitoes, depend on blood meals.
- Both types have a complete life cycle of
- The females of both types are using mammals like a human as their host.

## **What is the Difference Between Dengue Mosquito and Normal Mosquito?**

<b>Dengue Mosquito vs Normal Mosquito</b>	
The dengue mosquito is a mosquito that is categorized under genera <i>Aedes</i> , small in size typically and has white bands on its legs, which	The normal mosquito is defined as the midge-like a fly that is categorized under the family of <i>Culicidae</i> that lacks dengue-like viral

carries dengue virus in its saliva.	particles in its saliva.
<b>Size</b>	
The dengue mosquitoes are smaller in size.	The normal mosquitoes are considerably larger.
<b>Active Time</b>	
The dengue mosquitoes bite specifically at daytime.	The normal mosquitoes bite during daytime as well as night time.
<b>Body Features</b>	
Dengue mosquito has white bands on its legs and silver-white scales on the body.	The normal mosquito does not have white bands on its legs and silver-white scales on the body.
<b>Living Environment</b>	
Dengue mosquito cannot survive in cold weathers. They are confined to the domestic environment.	The normal mosquito lives in cold weather as well as in hot weather conditions. They are living indoors as well as outdoors.
<b>Place of Laying Eggs</b>	
Dengue mosquitoes specifically lay eggs in stagnant water. And larvae grow in pure water.	The normal mosquitoes lay eggs in stagnant water, water edges and on aquatic plants.
<b>Nature of the Bite</b>	
Dengue mosquito bite is quick and senseless.	The normal mosquito bite is sensible.

## Summary - Dengue Mosquito vs Normal Mosquito

Mosquitoes are midge flies come from the family of Culicidae. They resemble the crane flies and chironomid flies. The females of most of the species depend on sucking the blood on hosts like a human, and they are vectors of dangerous diseases such as dengue. The females are referred as blood-sucking pests (ectoparasites). However many species of the mosquitoes are not blood eaters. The males of many species depend on plant nectar. Many who rely on blood, do not transmit diseases either. Concerning on disease transmitting only a few species are economically important such as; *Aedes*, *Anopheles* and *Culex*. Over 3500 species of mosquitoes are identified. Dengue

mosquito is a small fly that has white bands on its legs and silver-white scales on its body. Normal mosquitoes do not have white bands on their legs, and they do not cause diseases. This is the difference between dengue mosquito and normal mosquito.

#### **Reference:**

- 1.Administrator. Dengue Transmission by Aedes aegypti Mosquito. [Available here](#)
- 2.“Mosquito.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 8 Jan. 2018. [Available here](#)
- 3.Nature News, Nature Publishing Group. [Available here](#)

#### **Image Courtesy:**

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