List of Phobias: The Most Common Phobias From A to Z

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Phobias are one of the most common mental illnesses in the United States. According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIH), approximately 12.5% of adults in the U.S. will deal with a specific phobia in their lifetime. Women are more likely to experience phobias than men. Typical symptoms of phobias can include nausea, trembling, rapid heartbeat, feelings of unreality, and being preoccupied with the fear object.

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) identifies three different categories of phobias: social phobias, agoraphobia, and specific phobias. When people talk about having a phobia of a specific object such as snakes, spiders, or needles, they are referring to a specific phobia.



While not comprehensive, this list of phobias offers a glimpse of the many phobias that can have a serious impact on a person's life. As you may notice while you browse through this list, most specific phobias fall into one of four major categories:

Fears of the natural environment Fears related to animals Fear related to medical treatments or issues Fears related to specific situations

One important thing to remember is that virtually any object can become a fear object. The names of specific phobias are often formed as nonce words, or words coined for a single occasion only.

These names themselves are often formed by taking a Greek prefix that represents the fear object and adding the -phobia suffix. Because of this, any attempt at a completely exhaustive list of phobias would be a futile exercise. Any list of phobias could grow with the addition of newly coined terms for previously unnamed specific phobias.

A-Z List of Some of the More Common Phobias

A

Achluophobia: Fear of darkness Acrophobia: Fear of heights Aerophobia: Fear of flying Algophobia: Fear of pain

Agoraphobia: Fear of open spaces or crowds Aichmophobia: Fear of needles or pointed objects

Amaxophobia: Fear of riding in a car

Androphobia: Fear of men

Anginophobia: Fear of angina or choking

Anthrophobia: Fear of flowers

Anthropophobia: Fear of people or society Aphenphosmphobia: Fear of being touched Arachibutyrophobia: Fear of peanut butter

Arachnophobia: Fear of spiders Arithmophobia: Fear of numbers

Astraphobia: Fear of thunder and lightning Ataxophobia: Fear of disorder or untidiness

Atelophobia: Fear of imperfection Atychiphobia: Fear of failure

Automatonophobia: Fear of human-like figures

Autophobia: Fear of being alone

В

Bacteriophobia: Fear of bacteria Barophobia: Fear of gravity

Bathmophobia: Fear of stairs or steep slopes

Batrachophobia: Fear of amphibians Belonephobia: Fear of pins and needles

Bibliophobia: Fear of books Botanophobia: Fear of plants

C

Cacophobia: Fear of ugliness

Catagelophobia: Fear of being ridiculed

Catoptrophobia: Fear of mirrors Chionophobia: Fear of snow Chromophobia: Fear of colors Chronomentrophobia: Fear of clocks

Chronophobia: Fear of time

Claustrophobia: Fear of confined spaces

Coulrophobia: Fear of clowns Cyberphobia: Fear of computers Cynophobia: Fear of dogs

D

Ι

Iatrophobia: Fear of doctors Insectophobia: Fear of insects

K

Koinoniphobia: Fear of rooms Koumpounophobia: Fear of buttons

L

Leukophobia: Fear of the color white

Lilapsophobia: Fear of tornadoes and hurricanes

Lockiophobia: Fear of childbirth

M

Mageirocophobia: Fear of cooking Megalophobia: Fear of large things Melanophobia: Fear of the color black Microphobia: Fear of small things Mysophobia: Fear of dirt and germs

N

Necrophobia: Fear of death or dead things

Noctiphobia: Fear of the night Nosocomephobia: Fear of hospitals Nyctophobia: Fear of the dark

O

Obesophobia: Fear of gaining weight Octophobia: Fear of the figure 8 Ombrophobia: Fear of rain Ophidiophobia: Fear of snakes Ornithophobia: Fear of birds

Р

Papyrophobia: Fear of paper Pathophobia: Fear of disease Pedophobia: Fear of children Philematophobia: Fear of kissing

Philophobia: Fear of love Phobophobia: Fear of phobias Podophobia: Fear of feet

Porphyrophobia: Fear of the color purple

Pteridophobia: Fear of ferns

Pteromerhanophobia: Fear of flying

Pyrophobia: Fear of fire

Dendrophobia: Fear of trees Dentophobia: Fear of dentists Domatophobia: Fear of houses Dystychiphobia: Fear of accidents

 \mathbf{E}

Ecophobia: Fear of the home Elurophobia: Fear of cats Entomophobia: Fear of insects Ephebiphobia: Fear of teenagers Equinophobia: Fear of horses

G

Gamophobia: Fear of marriage Genuphobia: Fear of knees

Glossophobia: Fear of speaking in public

Gynophobia: Fear of women

Η

Haphephobia: Fear of touch Heliophobia: Fear of the sun Hemophobia: Fear of blood Herpetophobia: Fear of reptiles

Hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia: Fear of

long words

Hydrophobia: Fear of water Hypochondria: Fear of illness S

Samhainophobia: Fear of Halloween Scolionophobia: Fear of school Scoptophobia: Fear of being stared at Selenophobia: Fear of the moon Sociophobia: Fear of social evaluation

Somniphobia: Fear of sleep

Τ

Tachophobia: Fear of speed Technophobia: Fear of technology Tonitrophobia: Fear of thunder

Trypanophobia: Fear of needles/injections

Trypophobia: Fear of holes

V-Z

Venustraphobia: Fear of beautiful women

Verminophobia: Fear of germs

Wiccaphobia: Fear of witches and witchcraft Xenophobia: Fear of strangers or foreigners

Zoophobia: Fear of animals