

Amanita Species Spotter Sheet

Amanita is a genus (group) of mushrooms that share similar features. They grow from a volva which is a bulbous egg-like structure at the base of the fungi. They also have remnants of the volva in the form of warty patches on the cap and remnants of the partial veil as a ring or skirt on the stem. Gills are white/off-white and these fungi produce white spores.

Amanita species have a mycorrhizal relationship with trees and are usually found at the base of trees and hedgerows. Key features to look for include colour and texture of the cap, stem and gills, overall shape, gill attachment and smell of the specimen. Here are some of the easier *Amanita* species to identify.



Deathcap (*Amanita phalloides*)

Cap: Shiny olive-yellow/greenish-bronze colour. Starts off domed then flattens with age. Cap diameter is up to 15cm.

Gills: Broad, free. Pure white turning cream/pink with age.

Stem: Off-white. 15cm tall. Has skirt and volva at base.

Has sickly-sweet odour as it matures.



Gemmed/Jewelled Amanita (*Amanita junquillea*)

Cap: Off-white/pale yellow with darker centre. White patches. Convex, then flat or slightly depressed in centre. Cap diameter is 5-10cm.

Gills: White, crowded and adnexed (narrowly attached)

Stem: White. Yellow tint. Up to 10cm tall. Short-lived skirt falls away, leaving mark low on the stem. Bulbous base with volva



Fly Agaric (*Amanita muscaria*)

Cap: Bright red with white patches. Domed and flattens with age. Cap diameter is up to 20cm.

Gills: Crowded, free and white/cream.

Stem: Shaggy and white. Up to 14cm tall. Skirt and volva at base.



Tawny Grisette (*Amanita fulva*)

Cap: Orange/brown (tawny). Egg-shaped then flattens out with domed centre. Cap diameter is 5-8cm. Striated, paler edge to cap.

Gills: Crowded, free and white.

Stem: White. Up to 15cm tall. Volva at base but no skirt. Often called 'ringless amanitas'.



False Deathcap (*Amanita citrina*)

Cap: White/pale yellow colour. White patches on cap. Cap diameter is 6-10cm.

Gills: Crowded, free and white.

Stem: White/yellow. Up to 11cm tall. Quite large skirt and volva at base.

Smells of raw potato.



Panthercap (*Amanita pantherina*)

Cap: Dark brown/red with thick white warts. Domed and flattens with age. Cap diameter is 5-12cm.

Gills: Crowded, free and white.

Stem: Shaggy and white under smooth skirt. Up to 12cm tall. Volva at base with ridge around top edge.



Blusher (*Amanita rubescens*)

Cap: White/pink/brown with white/grey patches. Domed and flattens with age. Cap diameter is 5-20cm.

Gills: Adnate, free and white.

Stem: White above grooved skirt and reddish-brown below.. Up to 15cm tall. Volva visible on young specimens

'Blushes' from white to pink/red when bruised or cut

This spotter sheet is **not** to be used to identify fungi for the purpose of edibility. Several *Amanita* species are poisonous **if ingested**.