



AMERICAN BADGER

Taxidea taxus



The badger is a short-legged mammal with a shaggy fur coat. It has a white face with black “C’s” on both cheeks. The badger likes grasslands for its habitat and hunts at night because there is more protection. They are very good diggers and often burrow into the ground. Badgers commonly eat ground squirrels and other rodents. This mammal avoids contact with the opposite sex except to mate. Badgers can have quite a temper and, therefore, have few natural enemies, other than humans.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

Badgers are typically between 20 and 30 inches in length and are built to be very low to the ground.

WEIGHT

Adult badgers usually weigh between eight and 20 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

Badgers are carnivores and typically eat small rodents and ground squirrels. They will also eat snakes, frogs, and small birds.

HABITAT

Badgers are typically found in farmlands, prairies, and fields.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Badgers are distributed throughout most of the United States. They are found mainly in the Great Lakes Basin and westward to the Rocky Mountains. Their range extends into some regions of Mexico and Canada.

FUN FACT

The badger’s claws are so strong that they have been known to dig through blacktop and concrete surfaces.