



STEENBOK

Raphicerus campestris

SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The steenbok stands between 18 and 24 inches high at the shoulder.

WEIGHT

Steenboks weigh between 15 and 35 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The diet of the steenbok includes grasses, roots, and the tubers of some plants. They prefer the shoots of bushland trees and shrubs.

HABITAT

Steenboks prefer open areas with nearby cover.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The steenbok is found in the southern and eastern savannas of Africa. There are two populations that are separated from one another by a band of forest.

FUN FACT

In Africa, steenboks have been hunted for sport and meat. They are captured by snaring or by hunting with dogs.



Steenboks are usually found singly or in pairs, and they are a territorial species. Sometimes, however, they occur in small grazing groups. The average home range of the steenbok is estimated to be about 10 acres. Males maintain the same territory for a long period of time. Territories are confirmed by the chasing away of other steenboks and are marked by dung piles. Steenboks eat in the early morning and in the late afternoon. When a predator approaches, the steenbok freezes. If the predator comes too close, the steenbok will flee. Steenboks are mainly hunted by cheetahs, wild dogs, caracals, jackals, and hyenas.

