Wildlife footprints - field guide

Twelve familiar British animal and bird tracks to compare.

LOOK FOR THESE SHAPES

Use the footprint pictures to help recognise clues in soft mud or damp sand. Do not disturb wildlife or go near dens and nests.



Deer

Two narrow, split hoof marks. Sometimes dewclaws appear behind.

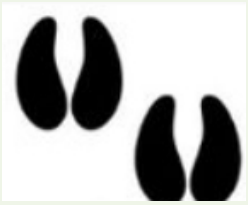
TRACK CLUE



Badger

Five toes and strong claw marks above a broad pad.

TRACK CLUE



Cow

Two broad, rounded hoof impressions.

TRACK CLUE



Sheep

Two narrower hoof halves, often pointed at the tips.

TRACK CLUE



Squirrel

Tiny hand-like front and hind prints, often in bounding groups.

TRACK CLUE



Fox

Four toes and claw marks; a compact, often oval print.

TRACK CLUE

Track diagrams supplied by Muddy Dragon. These are reference shapes, not actual-size tracings or photographs. Compare prints carefully; real tracks vary with the ground.

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Hedgehog

Five small toes; prints can be blurred or incomplete.

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Rat

Long finger-like toes; a tail line may be visible.

TRACK CLUE



Pigeon

Three toes forwards, one back: a common bird pattern.

TRACK CLUE



Dog

Four toes and a broad pad; shape varies with breed.

TRACK CLUE



Cat

Four rounded toes; claws usually do not show.

TRACK CLUE



Duck

Webbing between three forward toes.

TRACK CLUE

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