

Badger

Where do badgers live?

The American badger ranges over the greater part of the western and central United States as well as northern Mexico and southern Canada. Like the Eurasian badgers it is a powerful digger, but some of its behaviors differ from those of its relatives. Habitats with sandy or porous soils are preferred. Badgers frequent wooded areas when soils are suitable for digging.



What does it eat???

The American species is the most carnivorous of all badgers, digs out chipmunks, ground hogs, ground squirrels, mice and rabbits; it will eat carrion and invertebrates and also caches food. Rattlesnakes are eaten when available but the badgers do not eat the rattlesnake head. Carrion is probably an important winter food when the frozen ground is difficult or impossible to dig in.

What are their mating habitats??

Male American badgers become sexually mature as yearlings, but 30 percent of females have been found to breed in their first year, when only 4-5 months old. Birth is usually in April, or perhaps as late as June at higher altitudes. Usually 2 to 7 young are born. Females care for the litter by themselves. The young badgers move out in late summer to begin solitary lifestyles.



What does a badger look like?

Colors are mostly gray, with a grizzled effect due to long guard hairs that have a black band ending in a white tip. Their "under fur" is either a light tan, or a creamy white. A white stripe from the nose leads between the eyes and back over the head of the badger, ending between the shoulders.

Copyright: Steve Jackson



Cool facts about badgers!!!

The badger is the fastest digging animal on earth, and the strongest for its size. Eurasian badgers are known to "scent" trees and fence post from 12 to 16 inches (30.5 to 40.6 cm) up the wood by doing hand stands. An American badger was reported to join some joggers for a distance of about 164 feet (50 meters). A badger is considered to be old at 12 years of age.

Here are badger tracks:



