

Guide to Mammal Tracks in Ontario

When identifying animal tracks, it is important to answer the following questions:

- How many toes does the animal have on each foot?
- Can you see claw marks or not?
- What is the shape of the “pad” of the print?
- What is the total length and width of each print? *Tracks made in snow can melt and make tracks appear larger than they are naturally. Keep this in mind while measuring tracks or prints in the snow.*


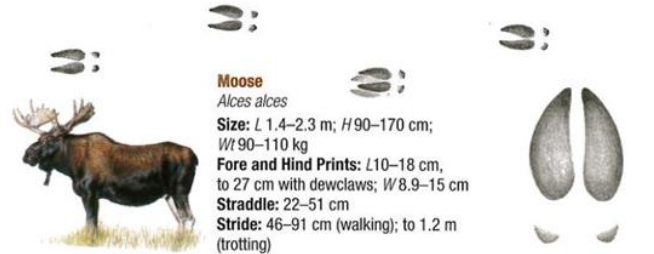
Group A: 2 toes per foot

Group B: 4 toes per foot



Group C: 4 toes in the front, 5 toes in the rear



Group D: 5 toes per foot


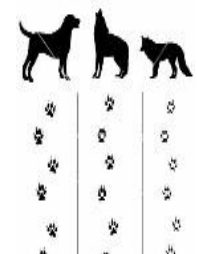
Group A: 2 toes per foot

 <p>White-tailed Deer <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> Size: L 1.4–2.1 m; H 70–115 cm; Wt 30–115 kg Fore and Hind Prints: L 5.1–8.9 cm; W 4.1–6.4 cm Straddle: 13–25 cm Stride: 25–51 cm (walking); 1.8–4.6 m (jumping)</p>	 <p>Moose <i>Alces alces</i> Size: L 1.4–2.3 m; H 90–170 cm; Wt 90–110 kg Fore and Hind Prints: L 10–18 cm, to 27 cm with dewclaws; W 8.9–15 cm Straddle: 22–51 cm Stride: 46–91 cm (walking); to 1.2 m (trotting)</p>
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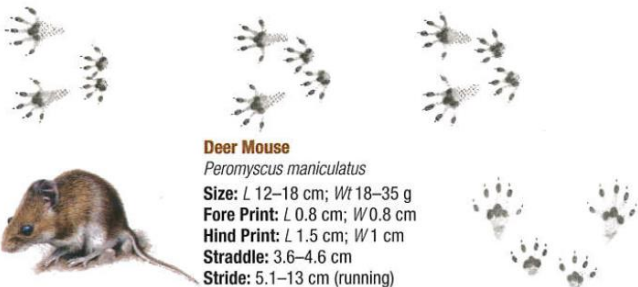
Group B: 4 toes per foot

 <p>Coyote <i>Canis latrans</i> Size: L 1–1.3 m; H 58–66 cm; Wt 10–22 kg Fore Print (hind print slightly smaller): L 6.1–7.9 cm; W 4.1–6.1 cm Straddle: 10–18 cm Stride: 20–41 cm (walking); 76 cm–3 m (galloping)</p>	 <p>Bobcat <i>Lynx rufus</i> Size: L 75–125 cm; H 45–55 cm; Wt 7–13 kg Fore Print (hind print slightly smaller): L 4.6–6.4 cm; W 4.6–6.6 cm Straddle: 10–18 cm Stride: 20–41 cm (walking); 1.2–2.4 m (running)</p>
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 <p>Red Fox <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> Size: L 91–107 cm; H 38 cm; Wt 3.6–6.8 kg Fore Print (hind print slightly smaller): L 5.3–7.6 cm; W 4.1–5.8 cm Straddle: 5.1–8.9 cm Stride: 30–46 cm (walking); 36–53 cm (trotting)</p>	 <p>Eastern Cottontail <i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i> Size: L 40–45 cm; Wt 800–1600 g Fore Print: L 2.5–3.8 cm; W 2–3.3 cm Hind Print: L 7.5–9 cm; W 2.5–3.8 cm Straddle: 10–13 cm Stride: 18–90 cm (hopping)</p>
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 <p>Snowshoe Hare <i>Lepus americanus</i> Size: L 38–53 cm; Wt 1.0–1.5 kg Fore Print: L 5.1–7.6 cm; W 3.8–5.1 cm Hind Print: L 10–15 cm; W 5.1–8.9 cm Straddle: 15–20 cm Stride: 25–128 cm (hopping)</p>	<p>Wild Dog (Coyote or Fox) or Pet Dog?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pet dogs usually walk in zig zags as they sniff around and explore. Wild dogs walk in a straight path as to not waste energy. • Pet dog tracks are usually found on or near trails or roads, and are usually accompanied by human (boot) tracks. 
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Group C: 4 toes in the front, 5 toes in the rear



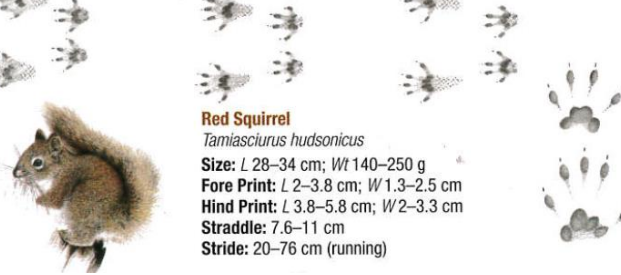
Deer Mouse
Peromyscus maniculatus
Size: L 12–18 cm; Wt 18–35 g
Fore Print: L 0.8 cm; W 0.8 cm
Hind Print: L 1.5 cm; W 1 cm
Straddle: 3.6–4.6 cm
Stride: 5.1–13 cm (running)



Porcupine
Erethizon dorsatum
Size: L 66–104 cm; Wt 3.5–18 kg
Fore Print: L 5.8–8.4 cm; W 3.3–4.8 cm
Hind Print: L 7.1–9.9 cm; W 3.8–5.1 cm
Straddle: 14–23 cm
Stride: 13–25 cm (walking)



Eastern Grey Squirrel
Sciurus carolinensis
Size: L 43–50 cm; Wt 400–710 g
Fore Print: L 2.5–4.5 cm; W 2.5 cm
Hind Print: L 5.8–7.5 cm; W 2.8–3.8 cm
Straddle: 9.5–15 cm
Stride: 22–90 cm (running)



Red Squirrel
Tamiasciurus hudsonicus
Size: L 28–34 cm; Wt 140–250 g
Fore Print: L 2–3.8 cm; W 1.3–2.5 cm
Hind Print: L 3.8–5.8 cm; W 2–3.3 cm
Straddle: 7.6–11 cm
Stride: 20–76 cm (running)

Group D: 5 toes per foot



Black Bear
Ursus americanus
Size: L to 2 m; H 1.0–1.7 m; Wt 265–390 kg
Fore Print: L 10–16 cm; W 9.7–14 cm
Hind Print: L 15–18 cm; W 8.9–14 cm
Straddle: 23–37 cm
Stride: 43–58 cm (walking)



Beaver
Castor canadensis
Size: L 91–122 cm; Wt 16–30 kg
Fore Print: L 6.4–10 cm; W 5.1–8.9 cm
Hind Print: L 13–18 cm; W 8.4–13 cm
Straddle: 15–28 cm
Stride: 7.6–17 cm (walking)



Raccoon
Procyon lotor
Size: L 65–100 cm; Wt 5–14 kg
Fore Print: L 5.1–7.6 cm; W 4.6–6.4 cm
Hind Print: L 6.1–9.7 cm; W 5.1–6.4 cm
Straddle: 8.4–15 cm
Stride: 18–51 cm (walking/running)



Weasels
Mustela spp.
Size: L 25–36 cm; Wt 45–400 g
Fore and Hind Prints: L 2–4.6 cm; W 1.3–2.5 cm
Straddle: 2.5–7.1 cm
Stride: 23–109 cm (bounding)



Mink
Neovison vison
Size: L 47–70 cm; Wt 0.6–1.4 kg
Fore and Hind Prints: L 3.3–5.1 cm; W 3.3–4.6 cm
Straddle: 5.3–8.9 cm
Stride: 20–89 cm (walking/running)



Striped Skunk
Mephitis mephitis
Size: L 53–76 cm; Wt 1.9–4.2 kg
Fore Print: L 3.8–5.6 cm; W 2.5–3.8 cm
Hind Print: L 3.8–6.4 cm; W 2.5–3.8 cm
Straddle: 7.1–11 cm
Stride: 6.4–20 cm (walking/running)