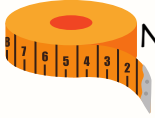


Level **Standard**

What does a badger look like?



Nose to tail - up to 1 metre long



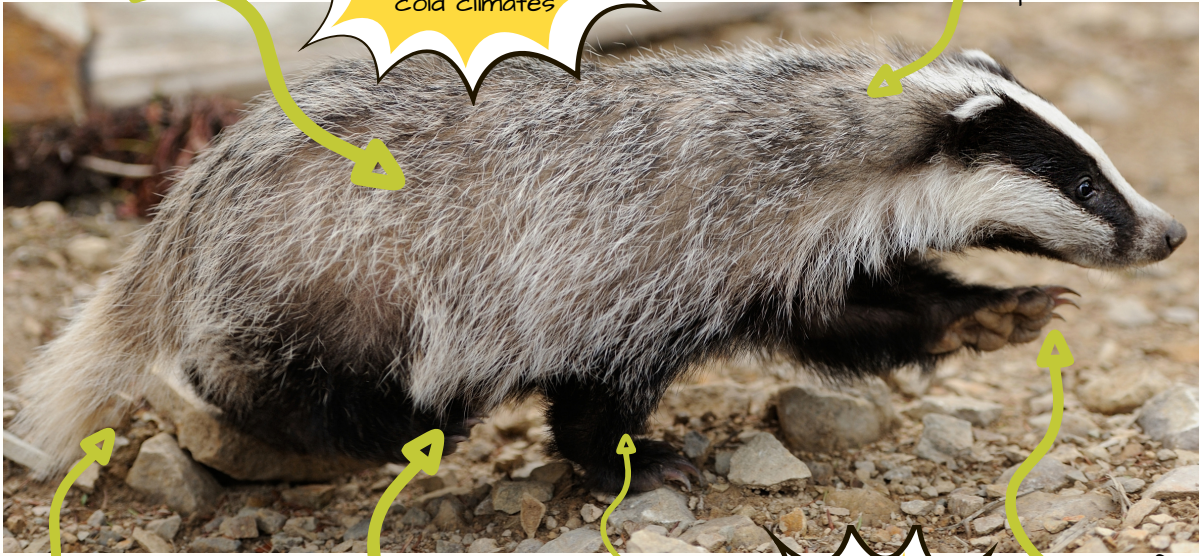
7-12 KG

Weight varies by age, sex and season; heaviest in Autumn when building up fat reserves for the shortage of food, inactivity and pregnancy in Winter

Body covered in course white & black hairs

Felt-like under-fur means they can live in cold climates

Thick muscular neck - protection in fights



Short bushy tail. Can be used to communicate with other badgers

Loose fitting skin:

- Hard for an enemy to grip in a fight
- Space to put on extra weight for Winter

Short muscular front legs!

Ideal for digging:

- sets
- for food

Front feet have longer and thicker claws than back feet



Which features tell you a badger is a great burrower?

- Low slung, streamlined body
- Short muscular limbs
- Long spine
- Strong claws
- Small eyes
- Long narrow nose - perfect for passing down tunnels



Each foot has 5 non-retractable claws made of keratin (like your fingernails)

Badgers can gallop over short distances at 25 -35 kmh

School of Professor Brock

Level **Standard**

What does a badger look like?

The white markings on a badger's face act as a warning to other animals of their strong jaws and powerful bite!



A central white stripe, known as a **BLAZE**!

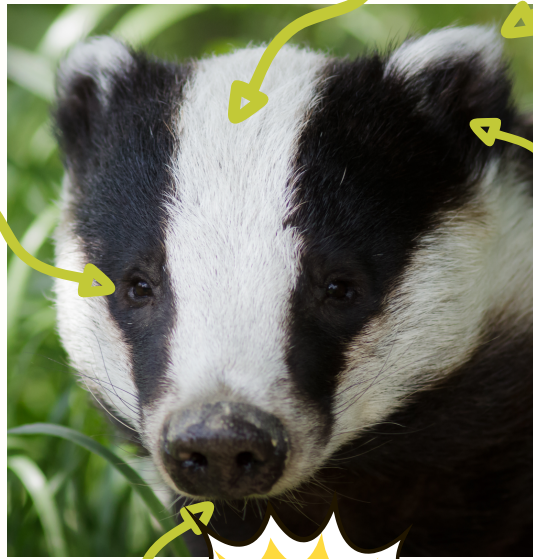
Notice the white tips of the ears

Small eyes!

Like many nocturnal mammals, they have small eyes & poor vision.



It is thought they see very little, if any, colour!



Small ears!

Small ears and average hearing. They are often making too much noise themselves to hear much!

Large nose

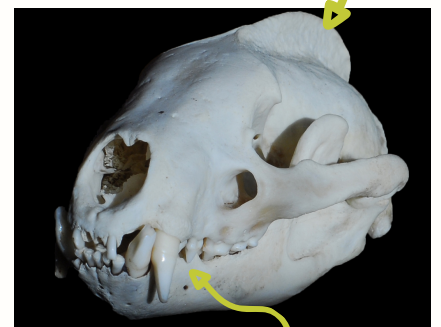
A long narrow nose with a soft and flexible end. A badger has excellent olfactory capabilities!

700 times better than your sense of smell!

Sagittal crest

A badger's jaw muscles are connected to the sagittal crest on top of the skull for extra strength

When foraging for food, the nose's soft & flexible end helps them root around in the ground for beetle larvae & worms



Why is smell so important for a badger?



- to help find food
- to communicate with other badgers
- to identify badgers (individual or by clan membership or rivals)
- to communicate fertility
- to find their way round their territory
- to detect threats, eg humans

Sharp teeth!

- Canines for fighting
- Incisors for grabbing prey
- Molars for crushing