










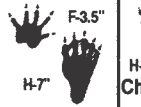






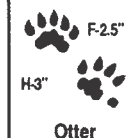




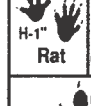







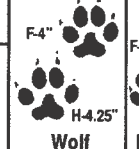
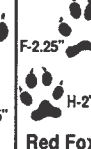


POCKET GUIDE TO ANIMAL TRACKS FOUND IN KENTUCKY

 <p>F-1.75" H-1.75"</p> <p>Bobcat</p>	 <p>F-1.5" H-1.25"</p> <p>Gray Fox</p>	 <p>Black Bear H-8" F-3.75"</p>	 <p>F-1.5" H-2.5 to 3"</p> <p>Gray & Fox Squirrel</p>	 <p>4"</p> <p>Elk</p>
 <p>F-2" H-3"</p> <p>Raccoon</p>	 <p>F-3" H-3"</p> <p>Cougar</p>	 <p>2.75"</p> <p>Whitetail Deer</p>	 <p>8"</p> <p>Blue Heron</p>	 <p>4"</p> <p>Wild Turkey</p>
 <p>F-.375 to .5" H-.5 to 1"</p> <p>Weasel</p> <p>Mink - similar to weasel F-1" H-1.25"</p>	 <p>F-3.5" H-7"</p> <p>Beaver</p>	 <p>F-.375" H-1.25"</p> <p>Chipmunk</p>	 <p>F-.25" H-.375"</p> <p>White-Footed Mouse</p>	 <p>F-1.175" H-1"</p> <p>House Cat</p>
 <p>F-2.5" H-2.25"</p> <p>Coyote</p>	 <p>F-2" H-2.5"</p> <p>Woodchuck</p>	 <p>F-1.5" H-2"</p> <p>Opossum</p>	 <p>F-2.5" H-3"</p> <p>Otter</p>	 <p>2.25"</p> <p>Grouse</p>
 <p>F-1" H-2.5"</p> <p>Cottontail</p> <p>(pattern)</p>	 <p>F-1" H-1.5"</p> <p>Striped Skunk</p>	 <p>F-1" H-2"</p> <p>Muskrat</p>	 <p>F-1" H-1"</p> <p>Rat</p>	 <p>5"</p> <p>Canada Goose</p>
 <p>4.75"</p> <p>Cow</p>	 <p>5.6"</p> <p>Horse</p>	 <p>2.5"</p> <p>Goat</p>	 <p>Variable Sizes</p> <p>Pig</p>	 <p>3"</p> <p>Crow</p>
 <p>2.5"</p> <p>Sheep</p>	 <p>F-4" H-4.25"</p> <p>Wolf</p>	 <p>F-2.25" H-2"</p> <p>Red Fox</p>		

F - Front Track
H - Hind Track
Tracks not to scale.
Sizes are approximate.

Tracks will show considerable variations due to ground conditions (snow, mud, dust, etc.) and animal movement. Measurements are toe to heel.

1

2

3

4

5

T R A C K S !

Track hunting is really very easy. Just find a spot of level ground with fairly soft, fine, textured soil. Smooth it over, and come back later to see what has been there! Obvious places for your smooth spot would be near water or on well worn trails. Large animals will use the more open areas, while a small spot the size of your hand cleared under some brushes will reward you with many different little tracks of mice, shrews, and reptiles.

Tracks can be preserved and collected by making plaster casts of them. This simple procedure will allow you to "collect" tracks and add them to other evidence like bones, nests, or scats that you already may have collected.

MATERIALS: Plaster of Paris, containers for mixing, spray shellac or plastic, vaseline, cardboard, knives, sandpaper, black ink or paint.

PROCEDURE:

1. Once a track is found, clean it of loose particles of soil, twigs, leaves and other litter.
2. Spray the track with shellac or plastic from a pressurized can if available.
3. Form a two-inch wide strip of cardboard or tin into a ring surrounding the track. Press firmly into the ground to give support, but allow at least one inch to form the edge of the mold for the plaster. Square forms can be made by cutting milk cartons horizontally – one of the easiest ways to make the forms.
4. Mix about two cups of plaster of Paris in a tin can or plastic bowl, adding water slowly until it is about as thick as heavy cream. Pour carefully into the mold until the plaster is about to the top. Allow plaster to harden at least 15 minutes before lifting it out of the track. If the soil is damp, hardening may take longer.
5. When the cast is hardened, lift the cast out, remove the ring, and clean the cast by scraping it with a knife blade and washing.
6. Back at home apply a thin coating of vaseline to the track and surface of the cast. Place it on a flat surface and surround the casting with a two-inch strip of cardboard or tin as before.
7. Mix plaster of Paris and pour into the mold, making certain that the top surface of the casting is smooth and level with the mold. Allow two hours for plaster to harden.
8. Carefully remove the mold when the plaster is dry. Separate the two layers and wipe the excess vaseline from the face of the cast and track. Scrape any rough places with a knife blade, or use fine sandpaper to smooth the surface. Wash the complete cast in running water.
9. When the cast is thoroughly dry, paint the inside of the track with India ink or black poster paint. A coat of clear shellac or clear plastic may be applied to protect and preserve the casting.

*Adapted from Project Wild ©1983,
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