

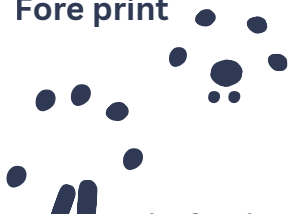


Now that your footprint tunnel is set up, use the guide below to help identify the animal prints you get and learn more about your local wildlife visitors.

In Guernsey you might expect to see the following species:

Brown Rat

Fore print



Hind Print



Size: Hind footprints are larger and range from 1-1.5 inches.

Shape: Tracks are elongated.

Toes: Four toes on front feet, five on hind feet. Front toes are spaced in a circular/star pattern; back toes are closely aligned.

Claws: Long claws may be visible in prints.

Tail: Often leaves a drag mark between footprints.

Pattern: Tracks usually form two parallel lines.

Guernsey Vole/Mulot



Guernsey Voles are on average 10% larger than other species of vole and are unique to Guernsey!

Size: Hind footprints are larger and approximately 1 inch.

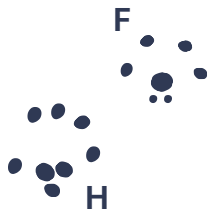
Shape: Shorter heel compared to Rats.

Toes: Star-shaped footprints similar to Rats but with outer toes positioned at right angles to the central toes.

Claws and **Tail** may be visible and prints are in a parallel **Pattern**.



House/Wood Mouse



Size: Footprints are approximately half an inch.

Shape: Short heel compared to Rats and Voles.

Toes: Four toes on front feet, five on hind feet. Spaced very similarly to Rats.

Claws and **Tail** may be visible and prints are in a parallel **Pattern**.

Shrew

Shrew prints are near identical to Mouse prints except smaller at approximately 1/4 inch.

The Great White-toothed Shrew is common in the Channel Islands but is not found in the rest of Great Britain.





Ferret/Polecat



Polecats are the wild cousins of Ferrets. They are invasive and are causing harm to local wildlife so it is important to monitor and control populations.

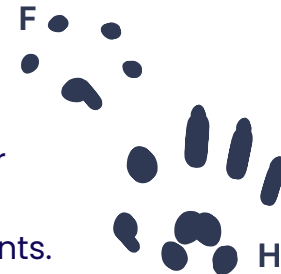
Size: Hind footprints are larger and approximately 1 inch.

Shape: They don't always track a central pad on the front.

Toes: Star-shaped footprints similar to Rats.

Claws and Tail may be visible. Footprints are further apart for Ferrets than Rats.

There may be lots of front paw prints with a few back paw prints.



Hedgehog



Size: Footprints are larger and approximately 1 inch.

Shape: Can look a little like tiny human hands.

Toes: Both the front and back feet have five toes, though often only four toes show up.

Pattern: Tracks usually form two parallel lines.

Hedgehogs hibernate from November to March each year, so their prints are unlikely to be seen during this time.



Hedgehog numbers in the UK are falling dramatically, but in Guernsey we are lucky to consider them common.



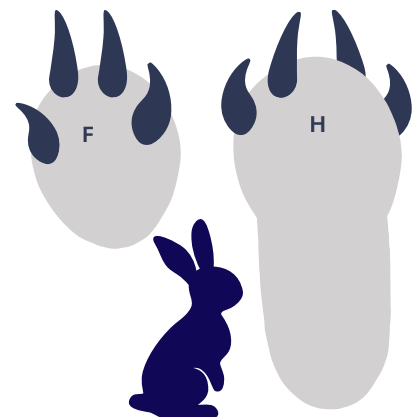
European Rabbit

Size: Hind feet are roughly 2.5cm width and 3.5cm length.

Shape: Hind feet are often an elongated slipper shaped impression. 4 pads on both fore and hind feet.


Toes: 4 on both fore and hind.

Claws are likely to be the main visible feature.



What to do with your findings:

Send them to us please! Email office@naturecommission.gg with subject line Garden Paws and include:

- Date that tunnel was placed.
- Location of tunnel using what3words 
- Lots of pictures to help us verify!

If you don't find anything, that's important info for us too.

