

ANIMAL Autographs

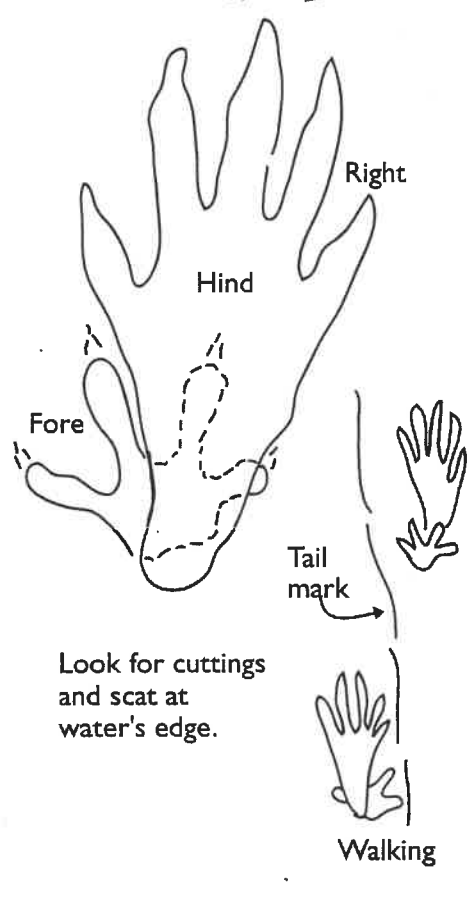
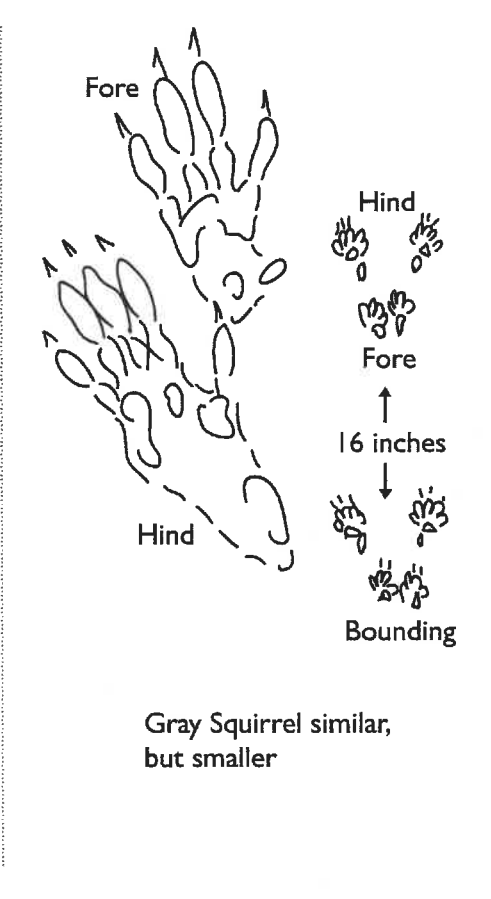
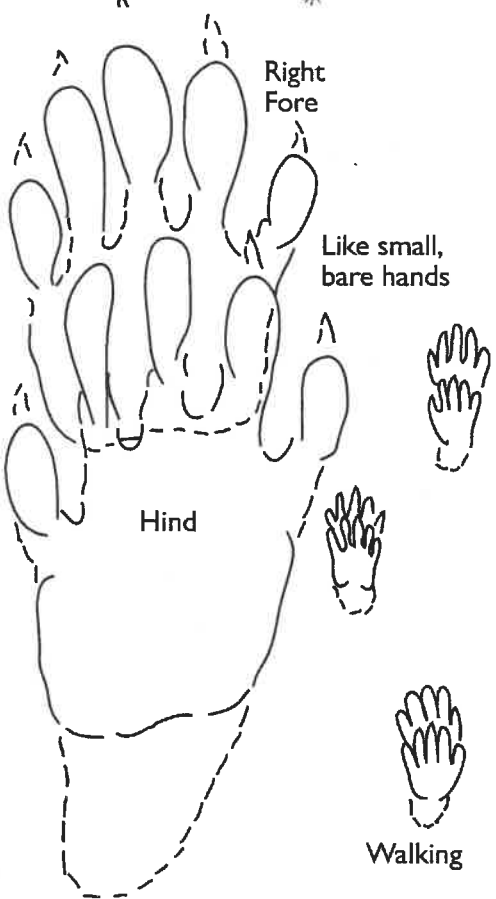
MANY REFERENCE BOOKS CONTAIN SKETCHES OF ANIMAL TRACKS, but tracks in the field rarely look like those found in texts. Dust can make an animal track look one way, and sand or mud another. An unrushed animal has one way of walking. The autograph his feet leave when in a hurry is quite different.

This field guide takes all of these differences into account. It originally was created to aid department biologists with yearly surveys along Missouri streams to determine furbearer populations. These illustrations of animal tracks—or autographs—are drawn to the size of average adults. Young animals' tracks are slightly smaller.

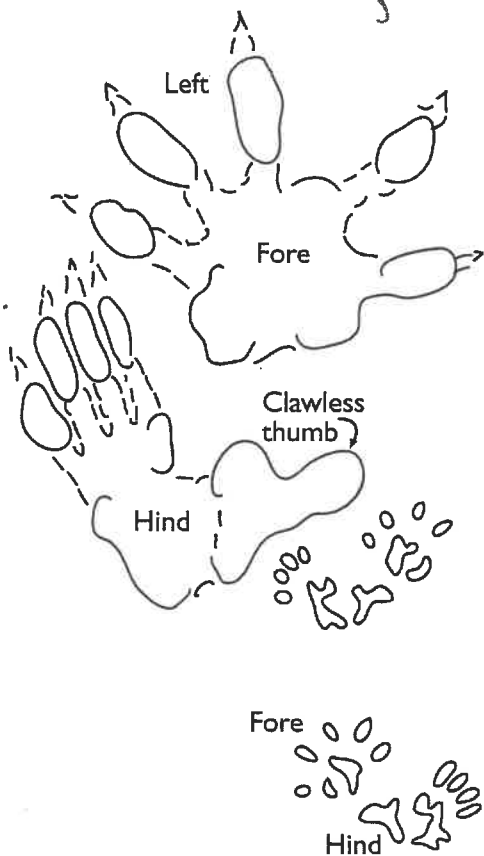
The solid lines represent those parts of a track which usually are evident. Dotted lines indicate parts which don't show under normal conditions. They are truly animal autographs.



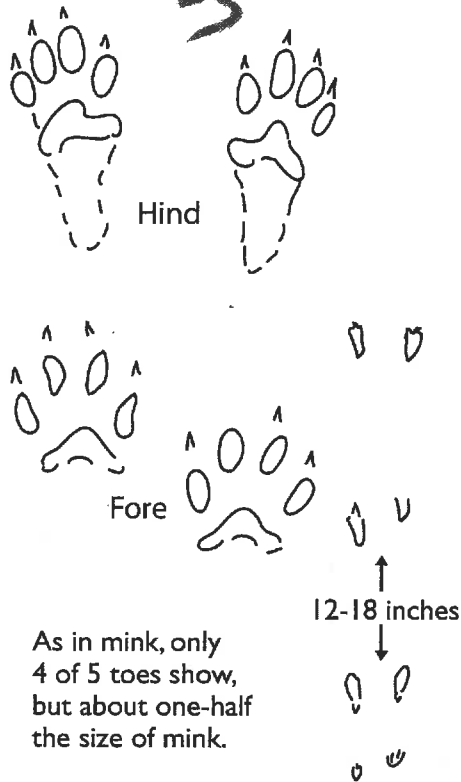
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



OPOSSUM

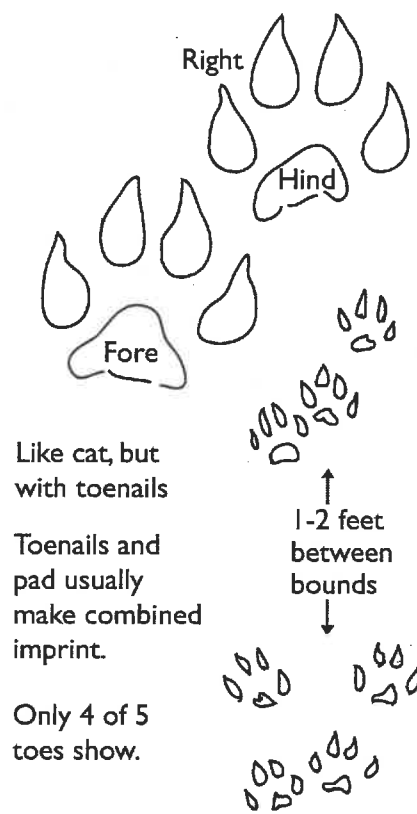


WEASEL



As in mink, only 4 of 5 toes show, but about one-half the size of mink.

MINK

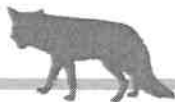


Like cat, but with toenails

Toenails and pad usually make combined imprint.

Only 4 of 5 toes show.

RED FOX

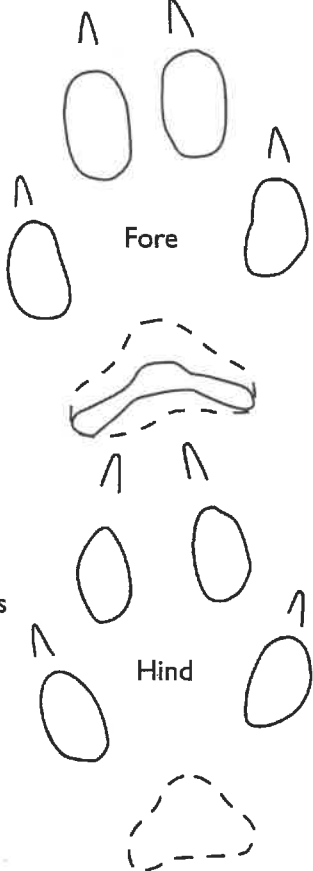


Weight: 8-14 lbs.

Foot hair may show in pad marks.

Barlike imprint

9-16 inches



GRAY FOX

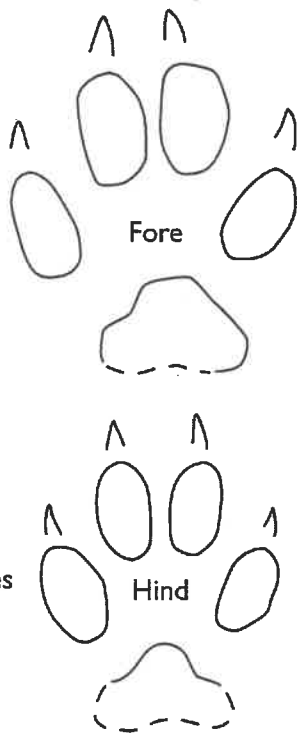


Weight: 7-12 lbs.

Walking

8-15 inches

Similar to summer coyote pups



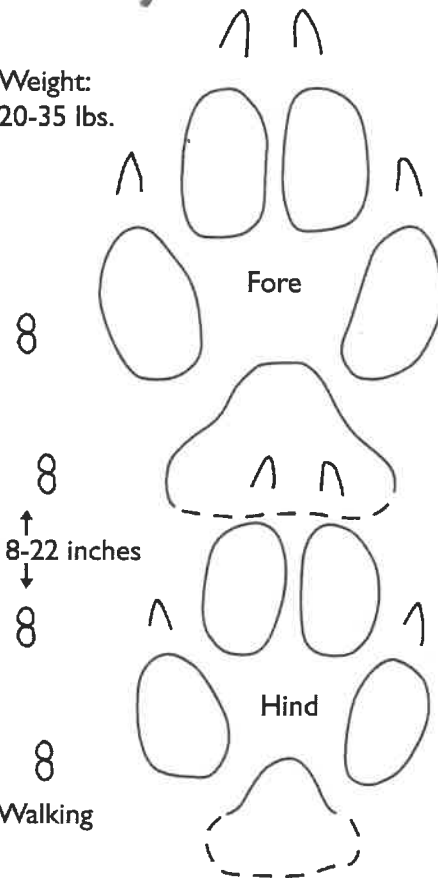
COYOTE



Weight: 20-35 lbs.

18-22 inches

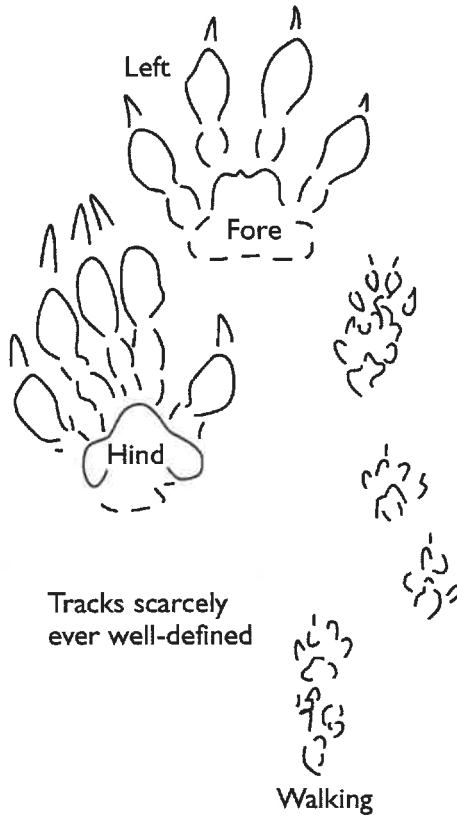
Walking



STRIPED SKUNK

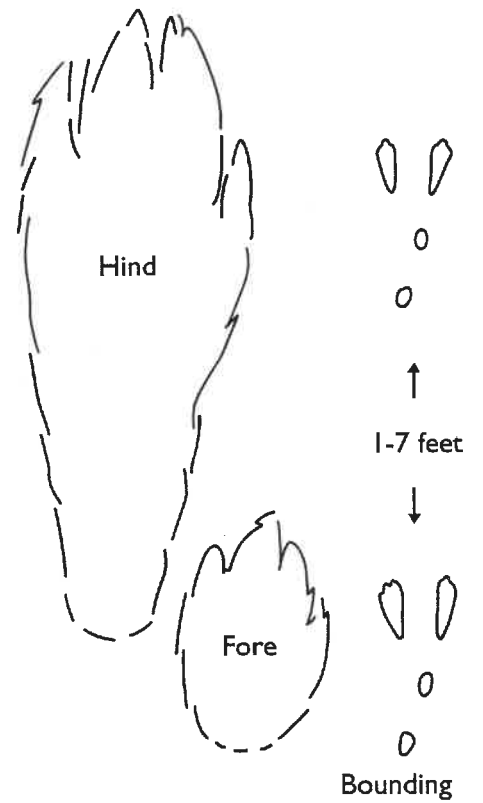


WOODCHUCK

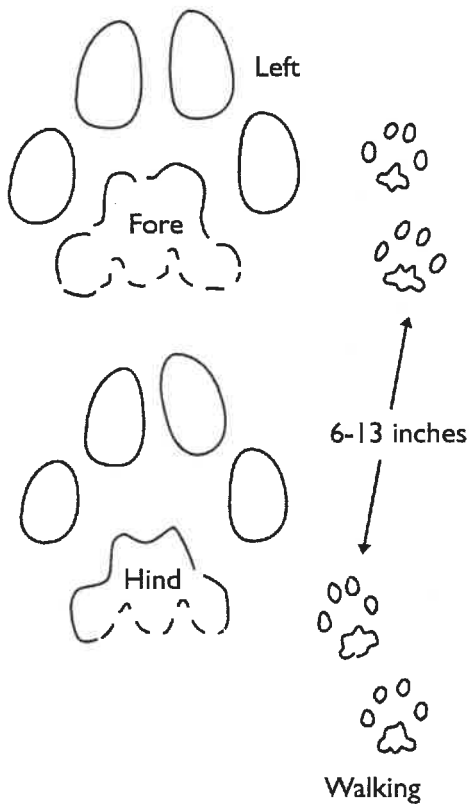
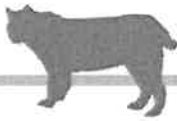


Tracks scarcely ever well-defined

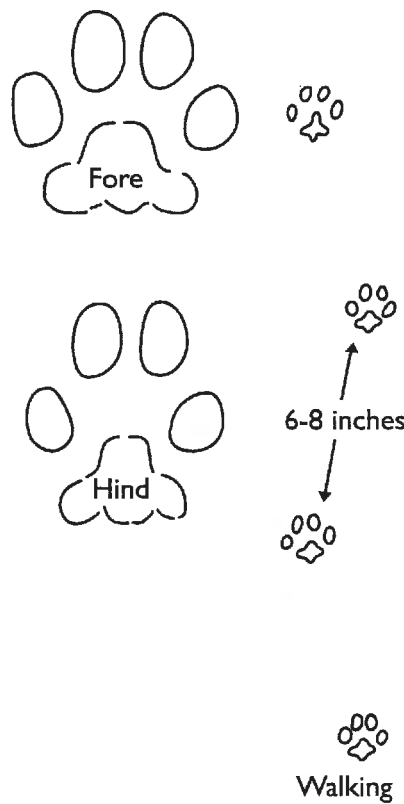
COTTONTAIL RABBIT



BOBCCAT



HOUSE CAT



DOG

