



# Bobcat

Lynx rufus

## Description

The Bobcat is a very adaptable animal that is widely distributed in North America. Locally it has expanded its range into populated areas, even into residential areas in cities as large as Calgary. Like other wild cats, they are strong, silent hunters living and hunting among rocks and bushes, and in well treed areas. Bobcats range from 12 to 24 inches high (30-60 cm), and 25 to 32 inches long (64-82 cm). They weigh just 15 to 35 pounds (6.8 to 16 kg). Most Bobcats are grey to brown with dark spots (for camouflage), with a white underbelly and short, black-tipped tail. The cat is named for its tail, which appears to be cut or "bobbed." They have well whiskered faces, black tufted ears and longer back than front legs.

## FUN FACTS

- > Bobcats are territorial, solitary and nocturnal. They are dawn/dusk (crepuscular) hunters.
- > Wild cats like the Bobcat don't chew their meat. They slice off chunks and swallow the pieces.
- > Bobcats have to catch their prey taking advantage of the element of surprise; they can jump up 12 ft!
- > Bobcats do not pose a threat to humans and are easy to co-exist with.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild bird or animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at **403-239-2488**, for tips, instructions and advice, or look at the website at **[www.calgarywildlife.org](http://www.calgarywildlife.org)** for more information.



Photo: Chad Larsen

## Contact Us

📍 11555 85 St NW, Calgary, AB T3R 1J3  
📞 (403) 214-1312

✉ [admin@calgarywildlife.org](mailto:admin@calgarywildlife.org)  
🌐 [calgarywildlife.org](http://calgarywildlife.org)

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