

## Badger Facts

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The name badger is probably derived from the French word 'becheur' meaning digger, however an old Kentish name for the badger is 'earthpig'.

The badger belongs to the Mustelidae family of carnivores, along with otters and weasels. The male badger is called a boar, the female a sow (so that's why they called it earthpig!) and their young are called cubs.

Badgers can be found throughout Europe and in parts of Asia. In Britain they are most common in the South and South West of England. Being shy animals, badgers are rarely seen, they live underground in a sett, and usually only appear after dark.

The badger's only threat is from man, who destroys its habitat through development and changes of land use, and more shockingly through badger-baiting - a horrific blood sport. Sadly this activity still takes place in West Kent despite the fact that badgers and their setts are protected by Law.

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