

Scat identification sheet

Want to know what animals you have in your backyard? You don't need to spend time in camouflage gear huddled behind a shrub; instead you can just have a look at any scats (poo) that are lying around.

You may find that it's quite difficult to tell some poos apart. If this is the case, then you should break them open. If it's a kangaroo or a macropod, chances are it will have finely chopped bits of grass in it. If it is a cat, fox or other carnivore, the scats will probably contain hair and bits of bone.



The next thing is to look at the size and shape of the poo. Generally speaking the bigger the poo, the bigger the animal.

Finally, finding out what animals are regularly seen in your area will also help in your scat identification.

On the following page you will see a range of scats. There are obviously more species of animals in Australia than the ones that we have included below. Consider the following resources:

Websites:

- What scat is that? - <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2007/09/26/2044094.htm>

Books:

- Tracks, Scats and Other Traces by Barbara Triggs.
<http://www.booktopia.com.au/tracks-scats-and-other-traces-barbara-triggs/prod9780195550993.html>

Images on identification sheet from: What scat is that? - <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2007/09/26/2044094.htm>

For more information on how you can help our environment, or to make some suggestions of your own, please go to www.coolaustralia.org

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Brush-tailed possum



Eastern grey kangaroo



Koala



Red fox



Wombat



Wombat

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