

FACTS ABOUT THE LYNX

The lynx is one of Poland's largest predators and, alongside the wildcat, one of the two wild cat species inhabiting the country. Although its population here is stable, sightings are rare, as the lynx is extremely elusive and extraordinarily vigilant.

IN POLAND WE DISTINGUISH TWO POPULATIONS

- Carpathian Population
- Lowland Population

● permanent lynx range
● single (solitary) individuals

HOME RANGE

depending on the region of Poland

♀ females
120–190 km²

♂ males
160–340 km²

The home range of an adult male usually overlaps the territories of two or three females.

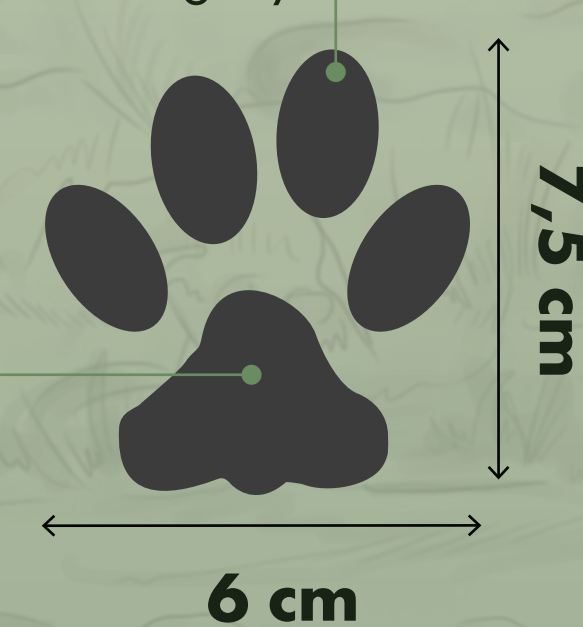
TRACKS

Paws are broad, which makes walking on snow easier. While walking, the lynx retracts its claws and steps on its toes, not on the whole foot.

Track is round and shows no claw marks; in loose snow a halo of hairs may be visible.

One front toe-pad sticks out slightly.

The metacarpal (central) pad is wavy with a bulge at the bottom.



SCAT



ca. 10 cm

ca. 2 cm

Hind legs are longer than the front legs

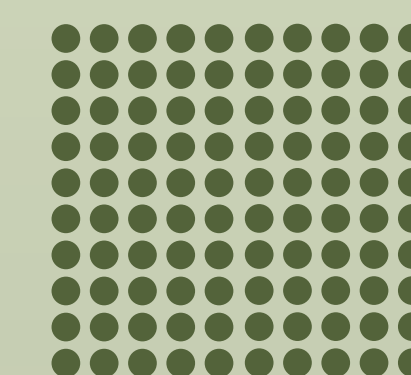
tail short with a black tip.

HABITAT

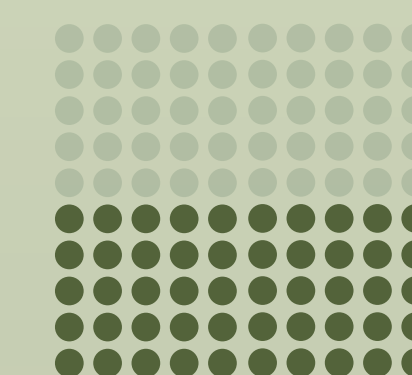
Exclusively forest areas of all types—both in the mountains and on the lowlands.



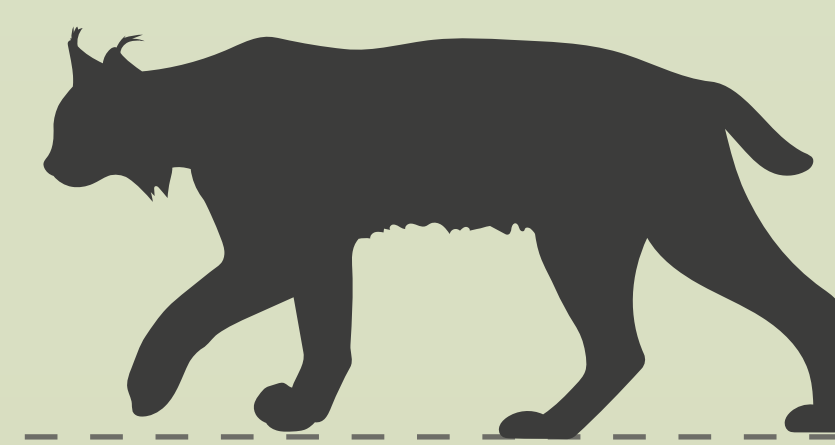
9000 hairs / 1 cm² on the back



4600 hairs / 1 cm² on the belly



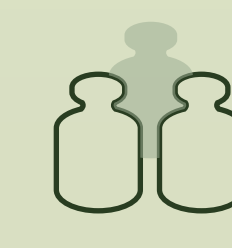
SIZE



body length: **70–130 cm**

Height at the shoulder:
65 cm

BODY WEIGHT



35 kg

15 kg

LIFESPAN



Up to **17 years** in the wild

SENSES

A lynx's hearing is more acute than that of humans; it can detect higher-frequency sounds.

audible range roughly

16–20 kHz

up to **70 kHz**



MOVEMENTS

Lynxes are active mainly at night. Average daily travel distance:

male
9 km/day

female
7 km/day

Average speed:
1,5 km/h

DIET

The lynx is a typical predator. On average it kills one prey animal every ≈ 5 days. Females rearing kittens hunt most intensively—about every 2 days.

roe deer
60–70%

red deer
20–30%



plus small mammals (e.g. hares)

REPRODUCTION

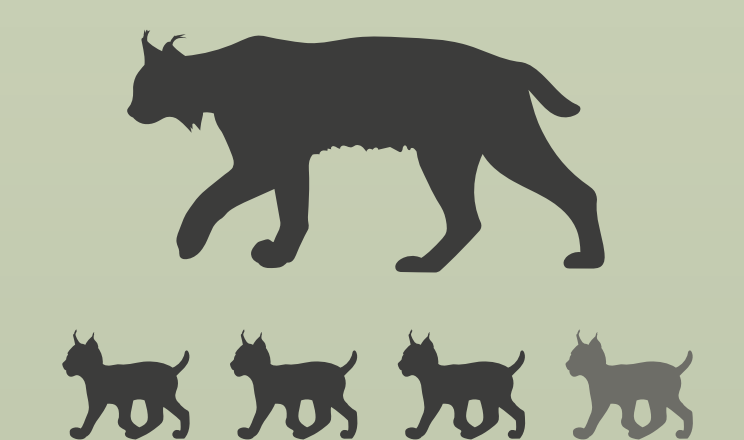
The mating season lasts from late January to March. After mating, the male leaves the female and takes no part in rearing the young.



GESTATION

10 weeks (67–74 days)

A female usually gives birth to **2–3 kittens**, less often 1 or 4.



YOUNG

Kittens are born in a secluded place—rock crevices, under uprooted trees, inside hollow logs, or in dense saplings.

The mother first feeds them milk, then brings solid food; once they are older, she leads them to her kills.

STRICTLY PROTECTED SPECIES

In the Pisz Forest a special adaptation enclosure has been used for several years in the lynx reintroduction programme.



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