



OCELOT

Kingdom: Animalia **Phylum:** Chordata **Class:** Mammalia **Order:** Carnivora **Family:** Felidae
Felis pardalis

Description: The Ocelot's coat has dark blotches on a rich golden brown or silver-gray.

Height: 25-40 inches

Length: 10-16 inches

Weight: 25-35 pounds

Habitat: Forests and scrubland

Distribution: Arizona to Argentina

Diet: Small mammals, reptiles and birds

Life Span: 17 in captivity

Status: Endangered

Special Characteristics:

- The Ocelot is one of the largest of the small cats.
- An agile climber, it spends most of the time resting in trees.
- They can run down trees headfirst.
- Solitary
- Although it has a good sense of smell, it relies on hearing and eyesight to hunt.
- Hearing in small cats is more acute than in large cats.
- In the dark, the Ocelot's eyesight is 6 times better than man's.
- The Ocelot sleeps lying down with its forepaws outstretched in front with its head resting on them like a dog. It is the only small cat that does this.
- It is a good swimmer.
- They can climb for prey but prefer to hunt on the ground

Reproduction:

- Sexual maturity at 6-8 months
- Gestation 70 days
- Litter size 2-4 kittens
- Kittens are born with fur, but blind and helpless.
- The mother teaches them to hunt and kill prey.

