

# WOMBAT

Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Mammalia Order: Marsupialia Family: Vombatidae  
*Vombatus ursinus*

**Description:** The Wombat looks like a cross between a small bear and a badger

Length: 36-45 inches  
Weight: 48-90 pounds

**Habitat:** Coastal hills and woodland areas

**Distribution:** Australia and Tasmania

**Diet:** Grass, roots, bark, and fungi

**Life Span:** 5 years

**Status:** Stable

## **Special Characteristics:**

- The Wombat lives in burrows that it digs itself. A single Wombat can have 10 or more burrows with several entrances.
- Mainly nocturnal and solitary
- The Wombat will run to its burrow to hide from predators and turn its rump towards its attacker. The thick skin will protect it from injury.
- They protect their feeding area aggressively and will leave droppings to warn other Wombats.
- The teeth have no roots and grow continuously.
- The fur is so bristly that in Tasmania it is often used to make doormats.

## **Reproduction:**

- Sexual maturity at 2 years
- Mating season April to June
- Gestation is 22 days
- As a marsupial it has an external abdominal pouch in which the female raises its young for 6 months
- The mother's pouch has a rear opening allowing her to burrow without disturbing her young.
- The young leave the burrow at 18 months.

