

# FAUNA FACTS

## Quenda

**Conservation Status:** Priority Four

**Scientific Name:** *Isodon fusciventer*

**Location:** Dense shrublands and forests in south-west Western Australia. They also live in many parks and gardens in Perth.

### What do they look like?

Quenda have a long, pointed nose and short, rounded ears. Their fur is short and coarse and is a dark grey or yellow brown with a creamy-white belly. Their tails have dark brown fur.



Photo: J. Kuehs

### Have you seen a quenda?

Please let us know us if you have seen a quenda by sending a [fauna report form](#) (on the Department's website [www.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au)) to [fauna@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:fauna@dbca.wa.gov.au).

### What is a quenda?

Quenda are a type of bandicoot, which are small marsupials that live on the ground. They are often mistaken for rats in Perth but they are generally bigger and fatter with shorter tails. Quenda are most often seen at dusk because they are mostly nocturnal animals, but they can also be active during the day, especially in winter.

### Interesting facts

Quenda eat seeds, fungi, insects and plant roots. If a quenda lives in your garden, it is best not to feed it – they already have lots of natural things to eat amongst all the garden plants!

Quenda dig cone-shaped holes, and finding these holes shows that quenda have been searching for food.

Quenda construct nests using a pile of leaves and sticks in a shallow depression under some shrubs.

Quenda mostly breed in the spring but they can breed at any time during the year.

The females can carry up to six young in their pouch, but most often they only have two to four young in a litter.

The pouch opens backwards, which stops soil getting into it while the females are digging for food.

For more information see the department's website [www.dbca.wa.gov.au](http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au)



Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions