



Badgers are a legally protected species. Both the animals and their setts are protected by law.

It is a criminal offence to:

- kill, injure or take a badger
- disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett
- interfere with a badger sett by damaging or destroying it
- obstruct the access to, or any entrance of a badger sett.

It is illegal to carry out any construction work close to a badger sett without taking steps to positively avoid damage and without an appropriate Licence.

It is no excuse in law to be unaware of the presence of Badgers. Most badgers have the characteristic black and white striped face although very occasionally they can be creamy white (albino) or red/ginger in colour. Fully grown adults can be up to 1 metre in length and weigh up to 14 kg. The sett entrance is usually D shaped and at around 300mm wide by 200mm high is larger than either a fox or rabbit hole. There may be signs of freshly excavated material at the entrance or piles of leaves, dry grass, straw or bracken, which the badgers take inside to use as bedding.

DO

- ✓ **IMMEDIATELY** stop work and inform your line manager if you discover a badger sett or see a badger on your site.

DON'T

- ✗ use heavy machines within 30 metres or
- ✗ use light machines within 20 metres or
- ✗ hand dig or clear scrub within 10 metres of a badger sett before checking with your line manager whether a Licence is necessary.