

HOW TO IDENTIFY FOX A FOX DEN



Step 1

Search for fox dens throughout the winter and spring. Look for freshly dug dens surrounded by small canine footprints in the immediate vicinity of the den and also inside the den. Trails and flattened vegetation are characteristics of cub 'play areas'.

Step 2

Focus your search near a water source. Remember that foxes, like all animals, need water to survive. Look in the area surrounding a small creek or pond for up to 200 metres.

Step 3

Look on a slope with good drainage. Think about where water would settle in a hard rain. Focus your search uphill from those areas.

Step 4

Search wooded areas with thick underbrush. Look in thick trees and shrubs on the edge of fields where a fox would be able to hunt with stealth.

Step 5

Locate likely food sources. Learn the habitats frequented by native animals that foxes hunt on a regular basis. Search these areas thoroughly.

Step 6

Follow your nose to a fox den. Remember that a fox is a canine and females will urinate to mark that they are in season. Sniff the air around a suspected den to detect the heavy, ammonia-like aroma of fox urine to confirm your target. The presence of partially consumed, fresh animal carcasses for example, small mammals and birds at the den entrance or distinctive odour sometimes with large numbers of flies present.

