

TIGERS

The tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is the largest member of the Felidae family. Best known for its striking reddish-orange coat covered in dark stripes, the big cat shows up in mythology and folklore, on coats of arms and even as mascots for sports teams. Here are some facts and stats about one of the world's most recognizable and beloved megafauna.

Class Mammalia
Order Carnivora
Family Felidae
Genus *Panthera*
Species *tigris*

Purrrrrrrrrrrrr

There's some debate in the scientific community over whether tigers and other big cats can purr. They can roar, chuff, growl, snarl and moan.

No two tigers have the same stripe pattern and these patterns are found not just on their coats, but on their skin.

Most tigers have over 100 stripes.

Tigers have two layers of fur: outer guard hairs for protection, and under fur, for warmth.

The back of their ears are black with a white spot called an ocellus.

Their clavicles are small and float between bones, attached only to muscles, allowing for greater stride lengths and the shoulder blades to pivot freely when running.

Tigers have excellent night vision and can see 6 times better than humans in the dark.

Tigers don't roar often, but when they do, the sound can be heard for over a mile.

While most carnivores have 42 teeth, tigers have only 30.

Tigers groom using their tongues to spread oils from their sebaceous glands over their fur.

Tails help maintain balance when making tight turns quickly.

The back legs are longer than their front and feature outward-jutting spurs on the bones that allow for longer, stronger muscles.

Each paw has four claws, with an extra claw on each front paw. These extra claws, or dewclaws, are set back slightly and do not touch the ground. They're used for gripping and climbing.

Softly padded toes allow the cats to move without being detected by potential prey.

Tigers can consume over **90LBS** of meat in one sitting.



Tigers are strong swimmers. They are one of the only big cats that enjoy spending time in water.

Tigers can jump more than 30 feet in a single leap. **30** Tigers can move up to 30 feet per second.



A group of tigers is called a streak.



Tigers can be found in a range of habitats including tropical forests, woodlands, mangrove swamps, and grasslands.



Tigers are primarily nocturnal hunters.



Tigers are generally solitary animals that live in established home ranges. The size of these areas is determined by abundance of prey, type of habitat, and whether the tiger is male or female.



Tigers are the largest cat species and the third largest land carnivores (after the polar bear and the brown bear).