

# Porcupines and Hedgehogs

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A hedgehog looking towards  
your left.



## Hedgehogs are different than Porcupines.

There are many differences between a hedgehog and a porcupine. The porcupine and hedgehog live in different habitats, have a different diet, look different, and defend themselves differently.

### Similarities

The porcupine and hedgehog are similar. The porcupine and the hedgehog are both prickly mammals.

Another reason why they're similar is because there are in the same family.

### Differences

The porcupine and the hedgehog are different because the porcupine is bigger than the hedgehog.

The hedgehog and the porcupine live in different locations. The hedgehog mostly lives in New Zealand. They can also live in Asia, Europe, and

Africa. The porcupine lives in North America from the United States to Canada. The porcupine spends a lot of there time on trees. They have gripping tails that help them climb trees. Hedgehogs prefer building a nest under trees around parks, farmlands, and gardens. They live close to woodland edges and suburban gardens.

Hedgehogs are covered with short thick quills. Quills are the spikes of a hedgehog or a porcupine. The hedgehog has

**Did you know that hedgehogs eat snakes?**

shorter quills, about 1 inch in length. A porcupine's quills are 2 inches. While the African Porcupine grows its quills, it grows to 11 inches long. A hedgehog's quills cannot easily come off its body. A porcupine's quills can come off easily the porcupine's body. The hedgehog has at least 7,000 quills. A porcupine has approximately 30,000 quills. When the hedgehog feels threatened, they curl up into a ball. When the porcupine feels threatened, it arches its back and the quills stick up. Porcupines have poisonous quills. And hedgehog's quills aren't poisonous.

Porcupines are herbivores. They eat fruit, leaves, grass, buds, bark, and stems. The hedgehog is an insectivore. They eat pests like slugs, insects, centipedes, worms, mice, snails, frogs, and small snakes.

Porcupines can only live in the wild. Hedgehogs can be wild and domestic (pet).

## **Special Message**

Porcupines and hedgehogs have similarities and differences. If you ever see a hedgehog or a porcupine, remember this article because it can help you discover the differences and similarities between a hedgehog and a porcupine.