

Wildlife Cameras & Footprint Tunnels

Trail Cameras:

Having a wildlife camera in your garden is a great way to help you discover the hidden lives of hedgehogs. *NatureSpy* have kindly provided some expert top tips and recommendations when it comes to choosing one!
(Hedgehog Street)

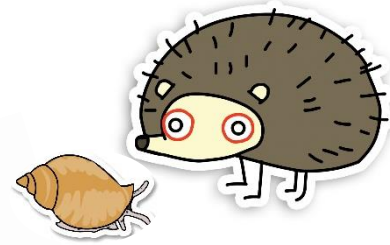
Camera traps have been around for decades, but in the last 10 years have become more accessible and more powerful – offering an easy way to get a glimpse into the long nights of hedgehog activity. Batteries can last months and they can go anywhere you need them to in order to follow your hedgehog around the garden.

There are a few tried and tested hedgehog camera traps that *NatureSpy* love to recommend; there's a rundown coming below.



1. **Browning Command Ops Pro** - more affordable end of the budget and is a sturdy little piece of kit that's easy to use too.
2. **Bushnell Essential E3** - video quality offers the next step up and they're really sensitive which is great when after hedgehogs.
3. **Browning Strike Force HD Pro X** - really quick to react, sensitive, doesn't over-expose images, has a forward-facing colour screen, really good on batteries.
4. **Browning Recon Force Edge** - does as the above, but offers full, smooth 1080p HD video quality.





Wildlife Cameras & Footprint Tunnels

Footprint Tunnels:

The Mammal Footprint Tunnel provides a non-invasive and effective presence/absence survey method for small mammals, particularly hedgehogs. The animal walks over ink pads to reach bait left inside the tunnel, leaving footprints on the tracking paper from which they can be identified. (NHBS)

The durable corrugated plastic design folds down flat making the tunnels easy to store and transport.

Charcoal ink is mixed with vegetable oil to make the mixture non-toxic and to stay wet for longer. This is pasted over two strips of masking tape around the bait area. X2 sheets of A4 paper at either end of the tunnel will then capture some inky footprints as the hedgehogs exit the tunnel.

They can easily be made from scratch or bought at sites as the one below:

<https://www.nhbs.com/mammal-footprint-tunnel>



© Kathryn Jones



What is needed?

- X1 tunnel made from corrugated plastic.
- X2 sheets A4 paper.
- X4 paper clips or pins to secure paper.
- Roll of masking tape.
- Powdered charcoal ink or non-toxic black poster paint.
- Vegetable oil.
- Small bait pot/bowl.
- Bait. (Cat food, hedgehog food or seed mixes.)



