













Order	Approximate Number of Living Species	Main Characteristics	Examples
Monotremata	3	The only egg-laying mammals; once widespread, now found only in Australia and New Guinea	Platypus, echidnas 
Marsupialia	280	Primitive mammals; have an abdominal pouch in which young are reared	Kangaroos, koalas, opossums 
Rodentia	1,814	Small herbivores with chisel-like, incisor teeth that grow continuously	Squirrels, rats, mice, beavers, porcupines 

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Chiroptera	986	The only flying mammals; elongated fingers that support a thin wing membrane; mainly fruit or insect eaters; many fly at night, navigating by sonar	Bats 
Insectivora	390	Small, chiefly night-active mammals; feed on insects; sharp-snouted; spend most of their time underground; the most primitive placental mammals	Moles, shrews, hedgehogs 
Carnivora	240	Land-living predators; teeth adapted for seizing prey and shearing flesh; there are no native families in Australia	Dogs, bears, cats, wolves, otters, weasels 

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Primates	233	Largely tree dwellers; binocular vision and an opposable thumb; large brains; the end product of a line that branched off early from other mammals; retains many primitive characteristics	Prosimians, apes, monkeys, humans 
Artiodactyla	211	Hoofed mammals with two or four toes; large herbivores; most are grass eaters	Sheep, pigs, cattle, deer, giraffes 
Cetacea	79	Aquatic, streamlined bodies; front limbs modified into broad flippers; no hind limbs; nostrils are blowholes on top of head; hairless except on muzzle	Whales, dolphins, porpoises 

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Lagomorpha	69	Rodentlike mammals with four upper incisors, rather than the two seen in rodents; hind legs often longer than forelegs, an adaptation for jumping	Rabbits, hares, pikas 
Pinnipedia	34	Marine carnivores with limbs modified for swimming; feed mainly on fish	Seals, sea lions, walruses 
Edentata	30	Mostly insect eaters; many are toothless, but some have degenerate, peglike teeth	Sloths, anteaters, armadillos 

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Perissodactyla	17	Hoofed mammals with one or three toes; herbivores with teeth adapted for chewing	Horses, zebras, rhinoceroses, tapirs
Proboscidea	2	Enormous herbivores with long trunks; two upper incisors elongated as tusks; the largest living land animals	Elephants

