

A FEW FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT OWLS



Owls are enigmatic. Owls are beautiful, mysterious, intriguing, fierce, spooky and cute.

Thanks to Harry Potter's pet Snowy Owl **Hedwig**, kids are more enchanted by owls than ever before, and as much as they are strikingly beautiful, they are also fierce predators.

The Snowy Owl has unmistakable white plumage that echoes its Arctic origins. What's not to love about a bird that is cute with super tuned-in senses?

Owls have reverse sexual dimorphism (when females are larger than males) across multiple owl species.

Owls can pinpoint the location of sounds in multiple dimensions because of their asymmetrical ears located at different heights on the owl's head.

There's no sneaking up on an owl.

Owls can turn their heads around almost all the way, but not quite like 'The Exorcist.' Owls can rotate their necks 135 degrees in either direction, which gives them 270 degrees of total movement without cutting off blood to their brain.

Owls are far-sighted and can spot prey from yards away. But up close, everything is blurry, and they depend on small, hair-like feathers on their beaks and feet to feel their food.



Unlike other birds, owl flight is silent. Owls make virtually no noise when they fly thanks to special feathers that break turbulence into smaller currents, which reduces sound.

Owls are not the neatest eaters. They either eat their prey whole or use their powerful talons to rip it into pieces. Both thoughts are equally gruesome.



Owls regurgitate the parts of their prey that can't be digested, like fur and bones, as pellets.

← Owl Pellet

Barn Owls attract much superstition and it's a good omen for farmers who find this owl in their barns because it preys chiefly on mice and rats.

They prey on their own kind and even larger prey.

Owls eat other species of owls, and the Eagle Owl can grab a small deer!

Great Horned Owls attack Barred Owls. Barred Owls eats Western Screech Owls.

Many attribute owl-on-owl predation to the cause for a decline in some owl species.

Owls are cloaked in camouflage. The color and marking on an owl's feathers allow owls to blend into their surroundings. Many owls sleep in broad daylight, but we don't see them.

Owls are a farmer's best source of pest control because they eat many rodents.

A single barn owl family will eat 3000 rodents in a four-month breeding cycle.



One owl can eat 50 pounds of gophers in a year. Many farmers install owl nesting boxes to rid their land of pests like gophers and voles.

Although this natural form of pest control is safer and cheaper than using poison, many owls die each year from eating poisoned rodents. (If you love owls and birds of prey, please don't use rodenticide!)

Owls and humans have been getting along just fine since ancient times.

They appear in Egyptian hieroglyphs and the 30,000-year-old cave paintings in France. Although they're intelligent and sociable, it's illegal to keep them as pets in the U.S.

So get outside and enjoy these beautiful birds in nature!

Content source:

<https://intobirds.com/why-everyone-must-love-owls/>