

Prairie Kingsnake



What Does the Prairie Kingsnake Look Like?

This dark brown to beige-colored snake measures about 30 to 40 inches in length. The back is patterned with brown to reddish circular blotches with black borders. Two alternating rows of smaller blotches flank its body, but they sometimes fuse into a single row. The young have the same pattern, but it is more vivid, and the background color is light tan to yellowish-gray.



What Does the Prairie Kingsnake Eat?

Prairie Kingsnakes are constrictors and usually eat small mammals. They feed on small lizards, small snakes, nestling birds with the bulk of the diet being rodents.

What is the Prairie Kingsnakes Habitat?

Prairie Kingsnakes live in a variety of habitats, from prairie grassland to rocky hillsides. They also reside in pastures, fields, and woodlands. They are secretive animals so will often retreat beneath rocks or down into the burrows of other animals to hide.

Prairie kingsnakes are often found around farms and barns which helps farmers keep mice out of their grain. Unfortunately, many people mistaken this snake for a venomous variety and kill it.



Cool Facts About the Prairie Kingsnake

When disturbed, Prairie Kingsnakes rapidly vibrate their tails, producing a buzzing noise when hidden amongst leaves. Of course this fools predators in thinking they are dealing with a venomous snake like the rattlesnake. Prairie King Snakes, like other king snakes, can eat venomous snakes and have immunity to their venom.