Macropods - The Kangaroo Family

Most macropods have hind legs larger than their forelimbs, large hind feet, and long tails which they use for balance.

Go through the questions below to identify the species:

1. Does it have black fingers or entirely black hands?

   Just black fingers.
   • It is most likely a Forester Kangaroo. See the reference photos underneath these questions.

   Entirely black hands.
   • It is most likely a Bennetts Wallaby. Check the reference photos underneath these questions.

   No black on hands/ fingers.
   • It could be a Pademelon, Long-nosed Potoroo or Tasmanian Bettong -- go to question 2.

2. Does it have a coloured tip on the end of its tail?

   Black tail tip.
   • It is most likely a Forester Kangaroo. Check the reference photos underneath these questions.

   White tail tip.
   • It is most likely a Long-nosed Potoroo or Tasmanian Bettong - go to question 3. (May also be a Ringtail Possum - check photos in Possum section)

   No tail tip.
   • It is most likely a Tasmanian Pademelon.

3. If it has the white tip on the tail, is the body of the animal sandy in colour or brown in colour?

   Sandy coloured.
   • It is most likely a Tasmanian Bettong. Check the reference photos underneath these questions.

   Brown coloured.
   • It is most likely a Long-nosed Potoroo. Check the reference photos underneath these questions.
Tasmanian Pademelon - 60cm
*Often confused with:* Forester Kangaroo, Bennetts Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon and Tasmanian Bettong.

Bennetts Wallaby - 90cm
Grey color, ears with black tips, feet with blackish tips. Long grey tail.
*Often confused with:* Forester Kangaroo, Bennetts Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon and Tasmanian Bettong.

Tasmanian Bettong - 35cm
Grey body, long back legs, snub nose. Tail as long as body, often with a white tip.
*Often confused with:* Forester Kangaroo, Bennetts Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon and Long-nosed Potoroo
Long-nosed Potoroo - 35cm

Grey-brown body colour. Long tapering nose, short front legs. Tail shorter than body often with a white tip. **Often confused with:** Forester Kangaroo, Bennett's Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon & Tasmanian Bettong.

Southern Brown bandicoot - 33cm

Brown on top, paler belly. Muzzle, rounded ears and hind feet are shorter than the Eastern barred bandicoot. Coarse fur. **Often confused with:** Long-nosed potoroo, eastern-barred bandicoot

Eastern barred bandicoot - 30cm

Light brown with pale bars across rump, and white belly, tail and feet. Muzzle, ears and hind feet are larger than Brown bandicoot. Fine fur. **Often confused with:** Long-nosed potoroo, Tasmanian Bettong, Southern Brown Bandicoot and Tasmanian Pademelon
Forester Kangaroo

A large kangaroo, can reach 60kg and 2m tall. Colour varies from light brown to grey. Ears are large. Found only in the north-east of Tasmania and some areas in the central north.

Often confused with (especially if young):
Tasmanian Pademelon, Bennetts Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon and Tasmanian Bettong

Short-beaked echidna - 30-45cm

Echidnas have spines across the whole of the back with thick fur in between. They range from honey coloured, to deep red/brown. Claws on the hind feet are elongated and curve backwards.
Brush-tail possum - 55cm
Range of fur colors, thick bushy tail is often visible after body is flattened.
*Often confused with:* Ringtail Possum

Ring-tailed possum - 35cm
Smaller than a Brush-tail possum. Tapering prehensile tail with white tip.
*Often confused with:* Brushtail Possum

Eastern Quoll - 40cm
No spots on tail. Fur either pale brown or black. Smaller than Spotted-Tail Quoll.
*Often Confused with:* Spotted-tail Quoll
Spotted-Tail Quoll - 75cm

Spots on tail. Fur is mostly chocolatey-red brown.

*Often Confused with:* Eastern Quoll

Tasmanian Devil - 65cm

Black fur, some with white splashes on body. Front legs longer than back legs. Large ears.

Wombat - 100cm

Large and round body, no tail. Short legs. Large claws.
Wedge-tailed Eagle

A large bird, 1 meter tall, 2.2 meter wingspan. Brownish-black in colour, with feathered legs, and typical raptor hooked beak.

*Often confused with:* White-bellied Sea-Eagle

White-bellied sea-eagle

A large bird, up to 2.2 meter wingspan. White body and head with dark grey/brown wings and back. Heavily scaled feet and lower legs.

*Often confused with:* Wedge-tailed eagle