



# Trapping possums at home

A quick guide

Thanks for doing your bit to protect our native wildlife. Your support is crucial as we work towards the goal of becoming predator free by 2050.

## In your Towards Predator-Free Taranaki bag you should have:



A Trapinator trap



A sticker for your letterbox or fence



A guide to using trap.nz

### You will also need:



A screwdriver  
(a drill is easier)

4 screws



**Bait**  
apple, carrot or citrus  
(about 3cm x 3cm pieces)



**Blaze**  
4 parts flour,  
1 part icing sugar and  
a sprinkle of cinnamon

## Setting up the trap

- 1 Put on gloves – you should always wear these when handling traps and animals.

- 2 Choose a tree that is wide enough at the height of the trap for the trap to sit flush against it. An ideal tree will also have signs of possum activity, such as scratches, bite marks or scat.



Mount the trap to the tree about 1.5m off the ground. **It is important to set the trap in a vertical position at this height to keep pets and children safe.** Remove the lid and screw three screws into holes at the top of the trap. Do not overtighten. Keep the end of the trap flat as if the back gets warped the trap may not function properly. Screws are recommended as they allow the trap to be removed in the future.



Remove the bait bar (the bar like a wishbone that moves up and down). Keep thumbs on the outside of the trap, grip bar with fingers on one side and squeeze firmly. Pull bar towards thumb until it pops out of socket, then pull it out of remaining socket. Set bait bar aside.

5



At the base of the trap, attach screw in the hole, securely attaching trap to tree.

6



Slide small piece of bait up to the white plastic on bait bar. **Never use meat as a bait. Always use apple, carrot, or citrus so as to only attract possums and not pets.**

7



Reattach bait bar, ensuring the bend in bar is downwards. Reverse process of removing bait bar, keeping thumbs outside of trap.

8



Refit the trap lid.

9



Add a blaze on the tree from the bottom of the trap down a couple of feet. Spread a good amount with gloved hand.

10



Set trap – push the red lever on the side of the trap back to the set position. If you have pets or children consider aversion training using trap (see FAQs).

11

Check trap daily for the first week, then weekly.

12

When a possum is caught the lever will go forward, holding the possum in place. To remove possum, simply push lever back towards set position and if needed grasp possum near neck and remove.