

# Siberian Chipmunk (*Tamias sibiricus*)

## Synonyms

**Common name:** Asian chipmunk, Asian ground squirrel

**Scientific name:** *Eutamias sibiricus*, *Tamias sibiricus altaicus*

**Native to:** North European Russia, China, Korea and Japan

**Consignments likely to come from:** unknown

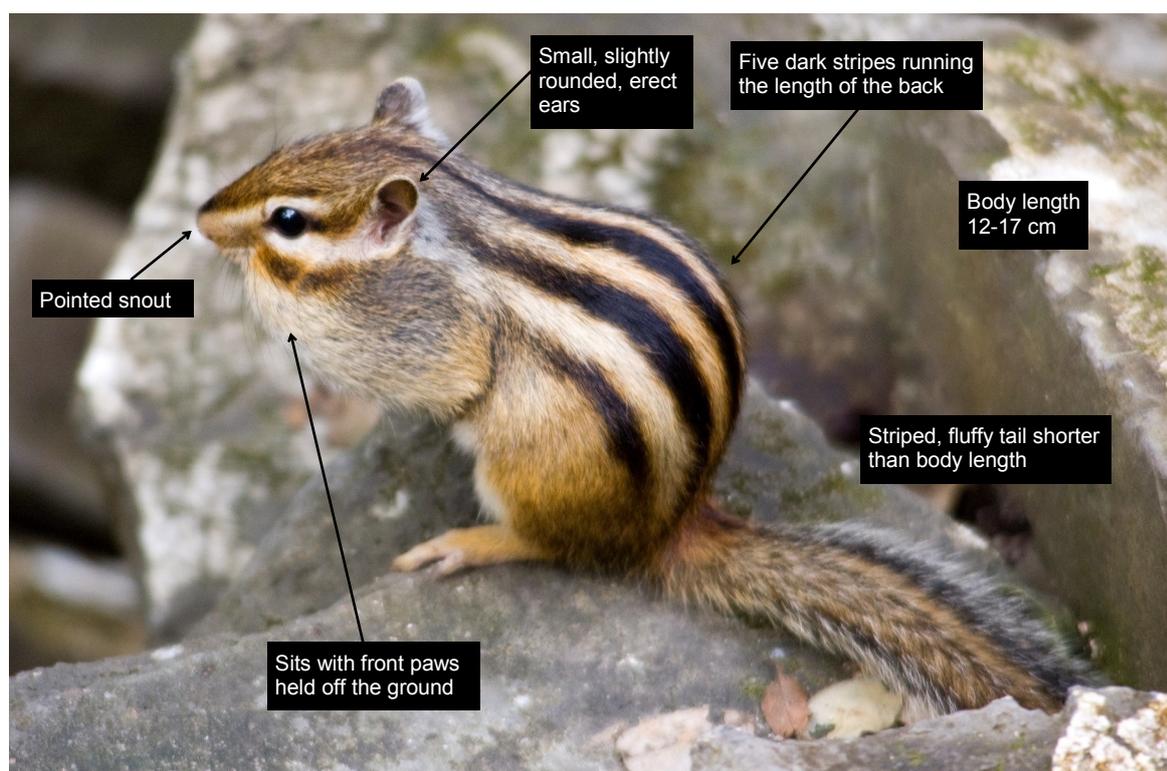
**Identification difficulty:** difficult to distinguish from *T. striatus*, seek definitive identification.

## Identification information:

A small squirrel, 18-25 cm long, of which the tail comprises one third. As with other chipmunks, it has brightly coloured fur which on the back is brown-grey to ochre yellow. It has large cheek pouches and small ears, slightly rounded at the tips. It has four light and five dark longitudinal stripes along its sides and a light brown tail with broad black lines on both sides and narrow white edges.



## Key ID Features



# Similar Species

*T. sibiricus* is very similar to the Eastern chipmunk, *T. striatus*, expert help is required to distinguish between the two species. *T. sibiricus* may also be confused with grey squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis* although the latter is larger and lacks the distinctive stripes of *T. sibiricus*.

***Tamias sibiricus***  
**(Siberian chipmunk)**  
For comparison



***Tamias striatus***  
**(Eastern chipmunk)**



Note: it is very difficult to distinguish between this species and *T. sibiricus*. Seek definitive identification.

***Sciurus carolinensis***  
**(grey squirrel)**

