

How to use a Trapinator Possum Trap



Important: All OPBG Trapinator Possum Traps are to be installed by an OPBG Community Coordinator or trained OPBG Volunteer who will undertake a site assessment & provide a H&S briefing.

Installation

- Trapinator possum traps are tree or fencepost mounted.
- Clear space is needed to ensure possums are able to access the trap from below.
- Ensure no branches are below the trap to act as a perch for non-target species.
- Wide girthed trees are preferable.
- The traps should be mounted at least 1.2 metres from the ground.

Baiting the trap

- Ensure the trap is in the unset position before opening the trap lid.
- The red lever (setting arm) should be closest to the lid. The sticker on the side of the trap clearly indicates the unset position.
- Open the trap lid, lift the inner metal trigger arm and rotate the plastic bite block upwards. Apply the preferred bait (peanut butter, Nutella, jam or possum dough)
- Swivel the bite block downwards, close the lid securely.
- Apply some 'blaze' to the trunk of the tree below the trap by filling your palm with blaze and smearing upwards towards the trap.
- **Do not bait traps with meat as it may attract pets.**



An unset Trapinator possum trap



A set Trapinator possum trap

Setting the trap

- Push the side lever (setting arm) toward the tree trunk to set the trap. Ensure your fingers are not hooked around between the lever and the side of the trap box (to protect your fingers if the lever fires forward while being set).
- If the trap will not set, check that you have rotated the bite block downwards. If the trap keeps setting itself off, contact your OPBG Community Coordinator.

Un-setting the trap (to rebait or release a dead possum)

- Do not un-set the trap by kicking or knocking it. Un-set the trap by holding the red lever and releasing it slowly towards yourself. Take care, the trap is spring-activated and **there is a reasonable amount of force behind the setting lever.**
- Releasing a dead possum – Always wear gloves. Push and hold the red lever towards the setting position. You may need to take hold of the possum by the tail to pull it down and out of the trap.

