

Freshwater Crayfish



Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Arthropoda
Subphylum:	Crustacea
Class:	Malacostraca
Order:	Decapoda

Crayfish, crawfish, or crawdads —are freshwater crustaceans resembling small lobsters, to which they are related. They breathe through feather-like gills and are found in bodies of water that do not freeze to the bottom; they are also mostly found in brooks and streams where there is running fresh water, and which have shelter against predators. Most crayfish cannot tolerate polluted water, although there are a few species that are more hardy. Crayfish feed on living and dead animals and plants.



A crayfish in its burrow

The body of a crustacean, such as a crab, lobster, or prawn, is made up of nineteen body segments grouped into two main body parts, the cephalothorax and the abdomen. Each segment may possess one pair of appendages, although in various groups these may be reduced or missing.

