

When we studied these creatures, we had to lock them up in a cage with flat glass walls. The fennix couldn't properly set their teeth on the glass without risking to get stuck after the first few centimetres. On more of a side note, keeping the fennix on an egg and fish based diet, without overfeeding them, seems to be an effective way of keeping them from producing any more sludge once they have emptied their supplies, either by spitting it, or by excreting a lump.

Upon further study. Me and my crew have managed to unearth the mystery behind fennix biting strength. These little creatures are capable of chewing through almost everything without applying much force. It was quite hard to study this phenomenon, as we had to study their teeth on a microscopic level when they were biting an iron pipe in half.

The fennix have peculiar teeth, the core consists of hard crystallized bone, with the edge of the teeth being only a few atoms wide. These edges are dangerously sharp, so in order not to hurt themselves with their teeth, they have developed a way to prevent that. It would be cumbersome if they were constantly snapping the piece of meat they are trying to eat in half just by holding it in their maw. The teeth are coated in some kind of substance similar to bone, the technical term is hyaline cartilage. When the fennix bites down on something, it takes about 4-5 seconds for the pressure it is applying to the teeth, for the hyaline cartilage to move aside. Once it has sufficiently been pushed out of the way, the sharp and hard core of the teeth will be able to touch whatever they are biting. It is also slightly elastic, so it will come back up to cover the teeth. When it gets damaged or destroyed, it doesn't take as long for this hyaline cartilage to regenerate, the core of the teeth takes a lot longer to regenerate.

There is no sharper edge than that which consists of few atoms. The surface area of these edges are so small that it can deliver an insanely large amount of pressure on a very small area. Comparing an ordinary *Canis lupus*, that has a bit of about 280 pounds per square inch, comparing this to the fennix, the fennix is able to put a pressure of up to 150,000 pounds per square inch, hence the small surface. This explains the fennix ability to bite off chunks of titanium. A slight amount of carbon has also found in the teeth of the fennix, it allows the teeth to strengthen as they are being used. It takes a little bit of time for the cartilage to cover the teeth again, so once they get going, they can keep biting quickly in succession.

We were surprised to see that the fennix couldn't just bite a chunk out of the cage without getting stuck, we even provoked a fennix to do so just to prove our theory. Fennix can't properly angle their teeth against a flat surface, when they try they can bite down, but the angle is too odd for them to keep applying pressure effectively. They can't get the hyaline cartilage pushed down far enough to bite deep into the glass of our cage.

Luckily for us, fennix rarely use this ability offensively, they can use it to split a rat in half, but they wouldn't be much of a worry for us, and many other creatures. As a fennix bites you, they have the problem of suffering from the time it takes to push the hyaline cartilage out of the way. When a fennix bites you, they will barely be able to hurt you until 4-5 seconds have passed, which is a surprisingly large and sufficient amount of time to react to them before they can snap off your hand. Of course, that is if you see them coming. Lastly, fennix are still cowardly creatures, biting someone would require a fennix which has been driven mad, or is simply ill, but there are certain variants who are less shy of biting someone.

As pets, fennix will only bite down on food or matter which serves well as fuel, and they prefer natural things like coal chunks or trees. It's what they are programmed to do with their maw over thousands of years of evolution. You don't have to worry about them chewing on your expensive furniture, or tearing apart your desert tent. Wild fennix prefer to bite down on rocks and space wrecks, or bone when they find it. Pets who have recognized someone as their master, will know only to take what is offered to them, unless they don't get fed and starve. Metal and such is only used as a form of recreation. They like chewing it, even if they can't use much of the metal in their body, and it takes a while for them to digest it. Don't worry too much about them picking up some of the objects around your living area, they will usually play with them, or chew on them without applying enough force to push away the hyaline cartilage.

They are often regarded as junk rats when encountered in a ship wreck, breaking down old machinery or destroyed pieces of hull. This is odd behaviour, only present in certain groups of fennix who must've been living around a single ship wreck for generations, they seem to have gotten used to eating these ships, often frustrating scavengers when they find traces of consumed valuables.

In order to avoid getting hurt by sharp edges when they eat, fennix have a reinforced throat, covered in a soft flexible coat which lowers the impact of sharp objects. They may occasionally get hurt a little, but most of time it isn't a serious injury, and they barely feel the pain as it is very dull in the almost nerve absent throat. This soft coat can be seen as some kind of mucus, coating the walls of their intestines.

Due to their teeth being so sharp, they often bury themselves in fresh corpses, or old carcasses when a sandstorm sets in, or just for a comfy place to spend the night. It is also not uncommon to see a rock hollowed out to accommodate a fennix, some rocks get nice and heated during the day, and they could climb in these holes as night settles in, enjoying the heat of these rocks until they cool off. This is only a minority of creatures however, most of them welcome the chill of the night, finding it a pleasant feeling. There are fennix living near volcanoes as well, these ones like heat very much.

Another odd feature we have found with a few fennix is that they leave a glowing mark after they bite. Only a few seem to have this mutation, and what is even more odd is that the bio-luminescent substances and bacteria left behind after biting only light up if it is dark enough. The bite marks glow, and it seems that these fennix are more aggressive, not shy of biting or risking their own skin to attack using their maw. They are capable of biting down harder with more speed, as their cartilage is more elastic than that of common fennix, only taking about half a second to a second and a half for it to get pushed to the side. They are also more agile than normal fennix, this is especially visible when enraged.

This variant is rare, and can be encountered in cave systems near the surface. When reproducing they will pass on these genes, which means that sometimes you are able to come across packs of them. They can see very well in the dark. Most interestingly, when out in daylight, or when artificial light is being projected on them, they becomes very timid and relaxed. This variant will sleep a lot during the day, and only seldom move through the desert during the day.

They glow a lot more brightly, and are not capable of creating the strong flames like a normal fennix, their primary defence mechanism is aggression and using their maw

and claws. This is one of the only cases when we can observe the same crystalline bone structures being applied to the claws of a fennix. Though only one fennix in a pack has these rather powerful and dangerous claws, with said fennix is the pack leader or the alpha. If another fennix gets born with such an ability, they refrain from using their claws until they are old enough to challenge the leader. These claws are not as sharp as their teeth, as that would yield a lot of issues, such as injuring themselves.

This variant can also appear in black and yellow colour schemes, or a mix between the two. It is common to encounter individuals which have red or yellow eyes.

These night stalking fennix have a special hunting strategy, instead of biting to kill, they simply bite prey of all sizes so other more capable predators can easily spots them in the dark, on top of that, the bite marks spread a scent which drives predators to the prey from far away, even sharks are known to attack prey with a mark that had healed and is over 2 weeks old due to the scent still being present, and sharks having such a strong sense of smell, making the tracking of these marked prey easier.

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