

MISSING PET RECOVERY TIPS

- If you did not see your pet escape but cannot find him/her make sure to conduct a thorough search of your home including inside the underside of beds, couches and other chairs/sofas, attics and basements. Conduct a thorough search of your yard if applicable.
- If possible have friends/family help search or assist in other ways.
- The initial hours after your pet goes missing are crucial so start right away!
- Search your immediate neighborhood including several blocks in each way, calling out your pet's name, squeaking his/her favorite squeaky toy and pausing after to listen for any noises he/she may be making.
- Ask around! Mention your missing pet to anyone you see walking around and ask if they saw a dog/cat in the area. If walking around at night make sure to have a leash with you and a flashlight to look for reflections of animal eyes.
- Make posters and flyers up for your pet including "LOST DOG/CAT" in large letters, a large color photo, location last seen, behavior information (shy, friendly, etc.) and contact information.
- Hand out flyers to neighbors, mail carriers, veterinary offices, local businesses, libraries, grocery store bulletin boards, etc.
- Posters should be on vertical and neon colored poster board (size recommendation is 22"x28") with an 8.5"x11" flyer in the middle. LOST DOG/CAT should be approximately 4" tall in thick permanent black marker. Flyer should be taped to poster inside a clear page protector to protect from rain damage.
- Call your local animal shelters, rescues, animal control, veterinary offices/hospitals and police stations.
- Place an ad on lost and found pet pages/groups on Facebook and/or Craigslist and contact newspapers to place ads.
- Visit local animal shelters and rescues and ask to see any animals that have come in since your pet went missing, ask about leaving a photo with your contact information.
- If your pet has been missing for several weeks consider asking local shelters or animal control if they rent out humane traps to safely catch your pet.
- Another method is creating a page on Facebook such as "Bring Kitty Home" or "Where is Rover?" which will help broadening awareness of your missing pet but you may receive a helpful 'outside of the box' tip of what worked for someone who had lost a pet previously.
- Be persistent, check as often as you can and do not give up hope- pets can be found days, weeks or months after they initially went missing.
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