



How to

Find Your Lost Pet

1. Protect
Your Pet

2. Start
Searching
Immediately

3. Advertise
Your Lost Pet

5. Don't Give
Up Too Soon!

4. Involve
Others in the
Search






Click a step to begin...



**HOMeward
BOUND PET**

1 *Protect Your Pet*

		
<p>Get an ID tag on your pet's collar, displaying your contact info or your vet's</p>	<p>Add another layer of security by having your pet microchipped. Chips cannot be lost or torn off like a collar tag</p>	<p>Get your pet a GPS tracking device, which alerts you if your pet leaves your virtual fence zone</p>

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2 *Start Searching Immediately*

1

- This is an **emergency**. If you can't stop everything and start your search, find someone who can start the search for you. The sooner you start searching, the more likely that you WILL find your pet.

2

- Focus on a 1 (in town) to 5 (rural) mile radius from where the pet was lost. Lost pets tend to travel in a circle within this zone. Cats usually stay within 1 mile.
- Look especially in any places they might smell food.




3

- Visit all the local animal shelters in-person, EVERY DAY.
- Every hour in a shelter or animal control unit may be his last. Don't just call. Your lost pet may look very different now than he did at home and the people you talk to by phone may not identify him correctly.

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3 *Advertise!*

 <p>oogle lost pets lost pets lost pet find lost pet web</p>	 <p>Report a Lost Pet.</p> <p>Is your pet lost? Don't wait. Let us know now so we can make your report available to a nationwide network of organizations, pounds, and shelters.</p>	 <p>Lost Cat Call Bob 888 888 8888</p>
<p>Report the loss at every <i>online</i> lost pet listing service you can find. Click below to see our list.</p>	<p>Print convenient lost pet <i>flyers</i> right from your pet's profile in our Homeward Bound Pet site. Post in every public area in the neighborhood. Click below for suggestions of where to post.</p>	<p>Create <i>business cards</i> with photo and phone number and leave them with everyone in the neighborhood. Can be printed on paper or card stock. Most word processing programs have a template you can use.</p>

[Online Lost Pet Links](#)

[Places for Flyers](#)

Read on...



Advertise MORE

Put flyers in sealed plastic and mount in the center of fluorescent poster board for signs at big intersections. Use 5" block letters for main message. Mount high enough for drivers to spot. DO NOT INCLUDE MICROCHIP NUMBER ON POSTERS OR FLYERS.



Read on...

And Advertise MORE

Radio

- Local radio stations may make lost pet announcements. Ask around if you're not sure which ones to call.

TV

- Local tv stations may air reports as well, or even do a story on the loss if your pet is a local celebrity. This would be your BEST possible publicity.

Social

- Don't forget Facebook, Twitter, Craigslist, any local "online yard sale" pages or other local online or email networks that can help get the word out to a lot of people quickly. Do not list your pet's microchip number.

News

- List a lost pet notice in local newspapers. Never give out your pet's microchip number publicly.

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4 *Get Others Searching*



Friends, neighbors, church members, local schoolchildren, everybody out in the parks...



Employees at local businesses: grocery, convenience store, pet shop, florist, gas station, restaurant, pet groomer...



Delivery people, veterinarians, animal hospitals, police, sheriff, fire department, highway department

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5 *Don't give up too soon!*

Sadly, not all who find a lost pet will try to find its owner. They may not have time; they may become fond of the animal and want to keep it; they may give the animal to a friend or relative as a gift; or they may earn money by selling it. Some think that every loose animal is "abandoned" and pride themselves on "rescuing" them. It is VITAL that you keep publicizing that your pet is lost, increasing the chances that someone will spot it, wherever it may be.

More Resources:

- [What You Don't Know About Lost Pets Can Hurt Them](#) Learn more about lost pet behavior, why they can become hard to catch, and more.
- www.petfinder.com lists unclaimed strays for adoption. Yours could be there!
- www.PetMaxx.com is an international version of Petfinder. If you have trouble with the site, it is also available on the www.petlink.net site.
- www.animalshelter.org/shelters/states.asp lists all animal shelters in the U.S. by state.
- [Missing Pet Partnership](#) offers recommendations of Pet Detectives by State
- www.FindToto.com offers a phone-alert system for a fee, calling thousands of your neighbors at once with a recorded message about your lost pet. They are exempt from do-not-call laws.
- www.lostpetcards.com will send a first-class postcard immediately to 1000 or more addresses in the area that your pet was lost for a fee starting around \$500.
- www.trucatchtraps.com offers effective, safe traps for catching feral or aggressive lost cats/dogs.

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National websites for posting lost pets:

- www.petameralert.com
- www.fidofinder.com
- findfido.com
- www.lostandpound.com
- www.thecenterforlostpets.com
- www.PetHarbor.com
- www.LostandFound.com
- www.lostpetatlas.com
- www.helpinglostpets.com
- (for cats only) www.tabbytracker.com

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Places for your flyers:

taxi services

bus stops

grocery stores

convenience stores

coffee shops

***any animal related
business***

churches

restaurants

libraries

gas stations

drug stores

schools

community centers

dog walking areas

beauty shops

any delivery services (pizza, ups, mail...)

Caution: It is illegal to put your flyers into mailboxes. And if you put them on car windshields in a parking lot, you may get menacing calls from the business owners when they land on the ground.

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