How to find a lost cat

It's scary when a pet goes missing, but most lost cats are found less than a third of a mile from where they escaped.

Use this systematic approach to bring your cat home.

Prevent pet loss

Ensure your cat has an up-to-date microchip and a collar with ID. Register your chip to link your pet's microchip number to your contact information. You can register any brand of microchip for free at *freepetchipregistry.com* or *findpet.com*.

Alert your community

Post eye-catching posters in your neighborhood with a clear image of your cat and your contact information. Share the same information in local NextDoor and Facebook groups. Alert dogwalkers, mail carriers, joggers and anyone else who regularly visits your neighborhood.

Upload your pet's photo

Petco Love's national database uses facial recognition technology to search found pet listings across the country. Upload a photo of your cat at *petcolove.org/lost* to start the search.

Investigate within a five-house radius

Get permission to check under decks and porches and in crawl spaces, garages and sheds.

Search at night

Scared cats are more likely to venture out of hiding when the neighborhood is quiet.

Notify animal shelters

Submit lost-pet reports to local animal shelters. Visit in person to ensure your cat isn't accidentally missed.

Use technology

Place food and water near where your cat escaped or where your cat has been sighted. Use a motion-activated camera to see if your cat visits the spot. Once you know where and when your cat is eating, you can set a humane trap to capture them.

Consider recent events

Your cat may have hitched a ride on a moving truck or be trapped in a newly constructed wall.

Don't give up

Many cats are found after weeks or months of searching.

Learn more *humaneworld.org/lost-cat.*

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