

## How to find a lost cat

- If your indoor cat has gotten out and is lost, go out at night and very early in the morning when it is quiet and traffic and noise are at a minimum. Settle quietly in a few different places for a while and call your cat by the name he is used to hearing you call him in the house. Bring favorite food treats along so he may catch a whiff of them if he is hiding somewhere in the neighborhood, which is quite possible. Bring a flashlight so you can spot him if he's hiding somewhere. If there are other favorite family members, they can do the same. You need to stay quietly in one place for a while though so he can build up his courage to come out to you.
- Put his litter box outdoors near the house. Sometimes indoor only cats get disoriented and cannot figure out how to find their home and get back in -- this is a scent (their own and other housemate cats) that they will recognize immediately.
- Go to your local shelters, just in case your cat has somehow ended up there. Check lost and found ads in the paper, and place a lost ad. Make sure that the agency that issued the rabies tag has your current contact information. Call local veterinarian offices during the day; after 5 PM, call veterinarian emergency clinics, just in case your cat was injured and someone has taken him for medical care.
- Check out the information at <http://www.lostapet.org/lostcatbehaviour.htm>, which has excellent suggestions, including tips for looking for your cat based on your cat's temperament. Also check out the suggestions on writing and posting an effective flyer at [http://www.lostapet.org/lost\\_cat\\_poster.html](http://www.lostapet.org/lost_cat_poster.html)
- Create a flyer using the free, easy to use flyer maker program on our website at this link: <http://www.bestfriends.org/flyermaker>, and post it within a five block radius of your home, or further, depending on where you live. Be sure that it includes a good photo of the cat and a thorough description. In addition, paste the flyer to fluorescent poster board to increase the likelihood that people will notice the flyer from a distance.
- Post a message on the Best Friends Network website, <http://network.bestfriends.org>. By posting a message to a forum, you can alert members in your area about your lost cat. To post a message, please follow these steps:

Go to the following link: [http://network.bestfriends.org/\\*\\*](http://network.bestfriends.org/**) (Replace the asterisks with your state name).

Click on the box near the top right hand of the screen to join the Network

Once you are logged in, click on the "Forums" tab, and then click on: "Working Together for (your state's name) Animals"

Choose "New Topic" from the choices next to the title of the community

Post your message

Check back frequently to see if other members have responded

- Post a message about your cat on these sites:

<http://www.pets911.com/services/lostandfound/index.php>

<http://www.petfinder.com/post/classifiedhop.html>

<http://www.h4ha.org/lostfound/>

<http://www.lostpaws.com>

<http://www.pmia.com/>

<http://pets.lostandfound.com/index.tpl>