

STEP FIVE - WHEN YOU FIND THE CAT'S HOME

- Thank and share your happy news with neighbours, vets and businesses.
- Take down posters.
- Share the strategies you've learned with others to help them find their cats.
- Help the owners to prevent losing their cat again. Encourage them to:
 - Update their microchip details.
 - Fit an elasticised collar with phone number.
 - Desex their cat (desexed cats are more likely to be found than undesexed cats).
 - Carefully contain their cat indoors or with cat-safe fencing. A flyer is available here for printing - <https://bit.ly/CatSafeBooklet>

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

www.missionreunite.org

FOUND A CAT IN IPSWICH?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KEEP HANDY IN CASE YOU FIND A CAT



Don't delay! Think lost not stray!

THIS RESOURCE IS A PARTNERSHIP PROJECT BETWEEN



Animal Welfare League Qld
Est. 1959

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Wandering cats are 13 times more likely to be returned to owners if you use the following strategies rather than just take them to the pound.

The reclaim rate for cats from Council shelters in Australia is approximately 2%-10%.)

STEP ONE - IS THE CAT FRIENDLY?

This cat is likely to be a local indoor/outdoor cat that has escaped. Approximately 50% of cat owners do not keep their cats indoors or have appropriate fencing/enclosures to keep their cat safe.

These cats are likely to explore, but the majority do not go far. 75% of these cats are found within 500m of their point of escape. Outdoor cats may be up to a kilometre from their homes.

If it doesn't have a collar and ID, it could have a microchip. Take the cat to a local vet clinic to be scanned for a microchip. If no traceable chip or the cat is too shy or fearful to be picked up, go to Step 2.

If the cat is sick, injured or too young to be on its own take it to the vet clinic as soon as possible.

If the cat is coming and going it may be living between multiple homes.

Try to fit it with a paper or breakaway collar with your phone number for an owner to call you - [download a template by visiting https://bit.ly/LostFoundCollar](https://bit.ly/LostFoundCollar)



STEP TWO

Utilise local lost and found and community web and social media sites to list the found pet with photo, and to check if an owner has posted a lost report.

For example, the Lost & Found Pets Ipswich QLD Facebook Page - <https://bit.ly/LostFoundPetsIpswich>

STEP THREE - CONTACT YOUR LOCAL VET CLINICS, SHELTERS AND POUNDS

Report the cat as found to the Ipswich Animal Management Centre, they are open 7 days between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm at 6 Hooper Street in West Ipswich. Their phone number is 07 3059 7131.

Ask them to check if it has been reported to them as lost. You can provide your contact details if you are happy for the owner to contact you.

STEP FOUR - CONTACT NEIGHBOURS IN A 5-10 HOUSE RADIUS

92% of indoor cats and 84% of outdoor access cats are found within a 5-10 home radius.

- Take a photo and ask all the neighbours if they know where the cat lives.
- Distribute flyers to your neighbours in a 5-10 house radius.
- Put up posters where you have permission (e.g. ask shop owners) and on community notice boards. Be sure to check with your Council on laws related to displaying community posters. On posters, include FOUND CAT, a PHOTO of the cat, YOUR PHONE NUMBER and any unique features.
- You can download templates to create A4 flyers/posters and social media posts at www.g2z.org.au/lost-pets.html
- Write a simple message on your car back window.

