

Found Dog Quick Action Guide

If you find a lost dog, acting quickly and carefully can help reunite them with their family. Follow these steps to ensure the dog's safety and increase the chances of a happy reunion.

1. Report the Pet

- Go to Petco Love Lost (<https://petcolove.org/lost/signup/>) and create a Found Pet listing with a clear photo.
- Even if you can't catch the dog, post where and when you saw them.

2. Look for ID Tags

- Check for a collar and ID tag with contact information.
- If there are no tags, bring the dog to a Petco, vet, or shelter to scan for a microchip.

3. Alert Your Community

- Call local animal shelters, vet offices, and animal control to report the found dog.
- Walk the dog around the neighborhood—most lost dogs are found within 1,000 feet of home.

4. Use Social Media

- Post the dog's photo and details on Nextdoor, Facebook lost-and-found pet groups, and other community boards.
- Check for matching lost pet posts from owners.

5. Approach with Care

- Avoid chasing or calling loudly—this may scare the dog away.
- Sit or kneel sideways, avoid eye contact, and toss treats to lure them in.

6. If the Dog Won't Come

- Contact local rescues or animal control for help with safe capture.
- Consider a humane trap, but ensure it's the right size and monitored at all times.

7. Where to Take the Dog

- If you can't keep them, take them to the local shelter or animal control office.
- Make sure all local agencies know you have the dog, even if fostering temporarily.