

- Do you need help finding a lost [dog](#)? This page outlines steps you can take to locate a dog who has wandered off. Read on to learn [how to find a lost dog](#).

Introduction

- There are steps you can take while your dog is still at home to minimize the odds of them becoming lost, and to maximize the chance of their safe return once they've disappeared. If your dog is lost, you'll need to take informal steps to locate your dog, as well as contact the appropriate authorities. **You will need to act quickly when this happens**

Step 1: Prepare Ahead of Time

Take precautions to prevent your dog from becoming lost, and to make it easier to recover a lost pet: **Pet sitters should ALWAYS take a recent photo of the pets in their care. This should be saved or stored for later use.**

- Place secure fences with locked gates around your yard.
- Don't allow your dog to roam free.
- Have current close up [photos](#) of your pet available.
- Include your home and cell phone numbers on your dog's collar.
- Train your dog to come when called.
- Have a current [rabies](#) tag or name on your pet. This number can be used to locate you. **Pet sitters should NEVER let the pets off the leash.**
- Consider a [microchip implant](#) for the most reliable form of identification.

Step 2: Pursue Informal Channels to Find Your Dog

- Search your house and property.
- Walk the neighborhood, calling for your dog.
- Talk to all the neighbors.
- Post flyers within a 1-km radius of where your dog was lost asap.
- Place an ad in the local newspaper and check the newspaper "found" ads daily *
- All this must be done immediately or within 6 hours of discovering the lost pet.

Step 3: Pursue Formal Channels to Find Your Dog

- Call all the local agencies who may have found your dog, including:
 - The police
 - Animal control
 - Humane societies
 - Breed rescue groups
 - Local veterinarians (TAH)
 - Animal emergency clinics (SPCA, AACL, PAWS, etc.)
- Register the lost pet on your local web-site.

Training module for : www.home-sitters.com
Source : <http://www.mahalo.com/how-to-find-a-lost-dog>