



FOUND CAT

WHEN SHOULD YOU BRING A CAT TO A SHELTER?

This chart will help you make the right decisions in the cat's best interest.
Keep in mind: not all cats need to be "rescued."

1) Does the cat appear to be sick or injured?

Limping, unable to stand, visible wounds, labored breathing

NO

YES



Is the cat missing a small portion (1/4 or 1/2 inch) of the tip of one ear?

Take the cat to Carson Shelter at 216 W Victoria St., Gardena CA or call Animal Control @ (310) 618-3850 for assistance.

YES

NO

Does the cat have a collar or other sign of ownership?

YES

To determine if the cat is really lost, try to contact the owner if they have a tag. Take the cat to a local vet or Animal Control to be scanned for a microchip. This could help identify the owner.

2) Is the cat friendly?

NO

NO

YES

A community cat is an outdoor, free-roaming cat without identifiable signs of ownership. The best approach for healthy community cats is to spay/neuter and vaccinate them, and quickly return them to their outdoor home.*

If a cat is friendly, they probably live in the neighborhood and may be a community cat, an owned pet who is allowed to "spend time" outside or lost.

It isn't necessary to bring a friendly community cat inside if they are thriving in their outdoor home. But if you have the time and recourses, you can choose to foster, adopt, or help find them a new family.

NO ACTION NEEDED

The cat does NOT need to go to a shelter. An ear tip indicates this is a free roaming cat who has been spayed/neutered, vaccinated and returned to their outdoor home.

*For additional resources scan the QR code, call, or visit animalcare.lacounty.gov/if-you-find-a-pet

South LA County: (562) 940-6898

