

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND KITTENS

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



START HERE: Are the kittens visibly sick or injured?

YES

Take kittens to a veterinary clinic immediately

NO

ESTIMATE THE AGE OF THE KITTENS



1-2 weeks old

Eyes still closed or just beginning to open.



2-4 weeks old

Eyes still closed or just open and alert, becoming mobile.



4-6 weeks old

Very mobile and often talkative, can eat food.



6-8 weeks old

Very active and playful, weighs 1-2 lbs.



8+ weeks old

Very active and playful, weighs 2 lbs. or more.

Can you see the nest/hiding spot? Is it safe?

YES

Gently return the kittens to the nest where mom can provide care. Most of the time, mom will return.

NO

If in danger, move the kittens to a safe space and watch from a distance. Most of the time mom will return.

What if the mother cat doesn't return after 6+ hours?*

Leave the kittens where they are and contact the Carson Animal Shelter at 310-523-9566

Are you willing to take full responsibility for the kittens?

NO

Great! Take the kittens to your local vet for a check-up & get started on vaccines and spay/neuter as early as 8 weeks old. Raise until the kittens are old enough to be adopted.

Leave the kittens where they are and contact the Carson Animal Shelter at 310-523-9566



*A nervous mother cat may not return if you are present. Make a ring of flour around the kittens and check back for mom's footprints.