

• **GET SOMEONE TO PHONE THE NEAREST VET.**

- Approach the pet from the front so they can see you.
- Avoid any sudden movements.
- Speak gently, using the pet's name.



Next, assess the situation:

- What's the danger to you and others? Always make sure it's safe to intervene.
 - Direct the traffic around the accident if you can.



Then you can move the pet away from traffic and get them to a vet:

- Don't move the pet if you think they might have damaged their spine - unless your vet tells you to.
- If the pet can walk, gently coax them to a car and help them get in.
- If they can't walk then lift them with one hand under their hind legs and the other around their chest. If they're too big to carry, use a blanket, coat, rug or firm board as a make-shift stretcher.
- As you move them, make sure their breathing isn't obstructed.

A pet first aid kit

A good pet first aid kit will contain all the things you'll need to give simple first aid for small injuries at home. Even if you can treat your pet using your first aid kit, you should take them to the vet for a check-up as soon as possible.

Your first aid kit should have:

Bandages *	Self-adhesive tape
Blunt-ended scissors	Dressings
Wound wash	Vinyl gloves
Cotton wool	Foil blanket
Tweezers	Antiseptic wipes
Tick tweezers	For larger animals, a large blanket to use as a stretcher.
Wound dressings	

**It can be dangerous to bandage at home without supervision as they can*

Consulting Times

Hillock Lane Surgery

Monday to Friday
8.30am to 7pm

Saturday
8.30am to 1pm



Blackpool Surgery

Monday to Friday
8.30am to 6pm

Why not download our new app, PetsApp. Order medication, book an appointment, ask for advice, sends pictures, pay for products and services and much, much more!

Hillock Lane



Blackpool



Pet First Aid

Rowan Veterinary Centre

"where pets come first"

Hillock Lane
Freckleton
Preston
Lancashire
PR4 1TP

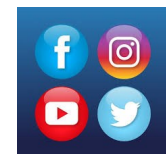
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Recognising an emergency

Your pet definitely needs to see a vet as an emergency if they:

- Aren't breathing or are having difficulty breathing.
- Are unresponsive.
- May have broken bones.
- Are having a fit/seizure.
- Are having difficulty moving or co-ordinating movements.
- May have eaten something toxic.
- Have collapsed and can't get up.
- Have severe vomiting or passing diarrhoea for more than 24 hour, particularly if they are retching but not producing any vomit.



What to do in an emergency

- Don't panic! If your pet is injured, you'll be more help to them if you can stay calm.
- Call the vet. Explain what's happened and let them know that you're on your way and when you'll arrive. If it's an evening or weekend you might get a message giving you details of the local out-of-hours vet.
- Don't try to deal with serious injuries yourself. This could put you and your pet in danger. Pets can lash out when they're in pain which can injure you and cause more complications for your pet.
- Don't give your pet anything to eat or drink unless your vet tells you to.

Be prepared!

- Keep your vet's name, address and telephone number stored in your mobile phone and in an address book or other safe place around your home.
- Keep a pen and paper handy to take down any important instructions from the vet.
- Call your vet first. You'll need to let them know there's an emergency case on the way and follow any instructions you're given e.g you may find emergencies are seen on a different site.
- Keep a pet first aid kit at home and with you when you're travelling.

Giving CPR to pets: our vet's advice

We would always advise that owners attend a veterinary led first aid course to learn how to deliver CPR in the safest way.

Unfortunately, CPR usually isn't appropriate or successful for pets. Those who have an underlying illness or disease are unlikely to recover, even if given CPR. However, CPR can save lives in some situations - for example, if a healthy pet's heart has stopped due to a specific cause, like drowning or choking.

How to check if your pet needs CPR:

- Try to stay calm.
- Quickly assess the airway and breathing.
- Remember your ABCs:



A is for AIRWAY - pull the tongue forward, check there's nothing in the throat but if there is, remove it taking care not to push any obstructions further down the throat.

B is for BREATHING - look and listen. Are they breathing? Can you see their chest rising and falling or feel breath coming from the nostrils or mouth? If they're not breathing, check for a heartbeat.

C is for CIRCULATION - place your hand or ear over the chest (where the elbow meets the ribcage). Can you feel a heartbeat? If you are sure there is no heartbeat, start CPR.

Performing CPR

Place your pet on their right side on a firm, flat surface. Dogs with barrel-shaped chests need to be lying on their backs and CPR compressions are done at the midpoint of the chest.

For large dogs use both hands interlocked to compress the chest. For small dogs and for cats, use one hand to compress the chest from both sides while they are lying on their side.

Perform two chest compressions per second at the widest part of the chest (remember the song "Staying Alive" - doing it to this beat is about right).



Each compression should depress the chest by a half to two thirds. The chest should be allowed to return to the normal position after each compression.

Keep your arms straight and if you have someone with you, swap regularly as the process is very tiring.

After 30 compressions, extend their neck, close the mouth and blow down their nose. Give a 1 second breath and a 1 second release.

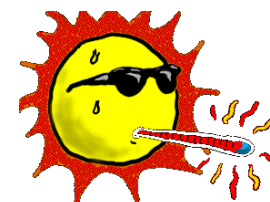
It is possible to create a seal with your mouth around small dog's noses, but for larger dogs you need to close the sides of the nostrils with your hand and blow down the nostrils from the front.

Check for a heartbeat. If the dog is still not breathing and there is no heartbeat, repeat the process, giving 30 compressions and two breaths until veterinary help arrives or until the heartbeat and breathing return.

Heatstroke in pets

Pets can quickly overheat in hot weather. Avoid heatstroke by:

- Never leave your pet in a car/ caravan/conservatory on a hot or warm day.
- Making sure they always have access to shelter and shade.
- Not walking dogs during the hottest part of the day - wait until it's cooled down.



If you think your pet has heatstroke, it's an emergency. You'll need to gradually lower their body temperature so they can recover.

- Move your pet into a shady, cool area.
- Pour small amounts of room-temperature water over their body. Don't use cold water as this could put your pet into shock.
- If you can, wrap your pet in wet towels and put them in front of a fan. Replace the towels every five minutes as the heat can get trapped between the body wall and the towel and make your pet even warmer.
- Let them drink small amounts of cool water.
- Keep pouring water over them until their breathing starts to settle. Don't cool them down so much they start to shiver.
- Once they've cooled down, take them to the vet as an emergency. They'll need to be checked over.

Traffic accidents

If your pet is in a traffic accident the best thing to do is keep calm and don't panic.