Steps to Find Your Lost Cat

From Pet FBI

Search the area.

Check your yard and surrounding area, looking under decks, in sheds, and in garages. Ask permission to search your neighbors' yards. Don't call loudly, use your normal speaking voice. Use a flashlight to search at night. A cat's eyes will reflect the light and make them easier to see.

Appeal to your cat's sense of smell.

Put your cat's favorite bed, blanket, or cat tree outside along with some smelly food, like tuna. If it's safe, leave a window or your garage door open a crack. Many cats will return home late at night.





Use signs and flyers.

Post large, brightly colored signs with your cat's picture and your phone number. Create flyers and go door to door in the neighborhood where your cat was last seen. You can create a free flyer at PetFBI.org.

Get the word out.

Contact animal control, animal shelters, and vet clinics. If your cat is microchipped, contact the microchip company to let them know your cat is lost and to verify that your contact information is current. Visit your local shelters in person.





Use social media and the Internet.

Post on PetFBI.org, Nextdoor.com, the lost and found section of Craigslist, neighborhood Facebook pages, and other lost and found social media sites.