

Animal Rescue

with the dog, you can thread the lead through the cage pulling the dog inside while the other person pushed the dog's back legs into the cage



アークの近くの自動販売機に捨てられていた
柴犬の雑種の保護

1. Feral dogs are very wary of humans and almost impossible to catch unless they are caught up in some way or are badly injured. There is a great risk of being bitten in trying to rescue these dogs.

2. Escaped dogs maybe a bit scared but are usually quite friendly. Even if they have a collar and lead it is wise to follow the method I describe below because often collars are too loose or worn and may slip off or break if the dog tries to pull away.

3. Abandoned dogs fall into two categories; those that have been recently abandoned and those which have been on the road a long time. I can usually tell the dog that has just been abandoned because it keeps looking at every car hoping its owner will return or it is running in panic along the road, not knowing which way to go. It is usually in good condition. Dogs which have been long abandoned tend to be thin, covered in ticks and often injured. Unlike the ferals, they find it difficult to survive.

Catching a dog.

Walk slowly to where the dog is and crouch down. Make no sudden movements and don't try to catch hold of the dog. You have to avoid being bitten at all costs. Put the rope lead arranged in a circle on the ground and start feeding the dog small titbits one by one inside the circle. The dog may come and snatch the titbit and back off. Keep putting out tiny pieces of titbits until the dog will take them from your hand. Hold the lead in the form of a noose and give the dog titbits through it. When his head comes through the noose, pull it tight and keep hold even if the dog struggles.

It is useful at this point to have someone else to assist. If they can bring the collapsible wire cage to where you are

and shuts the door. Do not open the cage again but try to take off the noose from its neck by using a wire hook in case it gets caught up in the cage and strangles itself. The cage can then be lifted into your car. Only when you are in a safe place where there is no chance that the dog can escape, can you let it out of the cage.

In case of a dog which is injured it important to avoid causing further injury when you attempt to move it. You may need to muzzle the dog since it may bite if in pain. Spread a blanket on the ground beside it and try to slide it gently onto it. Put another blanket on top. It's better to have at least one other person (four people may be necessary with a big dog) to hold the ends of the blanket, carry it like a stretcher and lift it into the car. If possible don't try to put the dog into a cage but have someone ride beside the dog in the car to stop it moving. An injured dog is usually in a state of shock so it should be handled gently but it should be taken to an animal hospital as soon as possible. It is better to phone the hospital in advance to tell them you are coming.

Cats:

Cats, unless they are very friendly or sick or badly injured are difficult to catch. For feral or long-abandoned stray cats you may have to use a cat-trap. This is a cage which the cat enters to eat food which is placed inside. As the cat steps into the cage a spring is released closing the trap door behind it. It is vital if you place such traps around, to check them regularly. The cat can be transported to the animal hospital (for neutering or treatment) in the trap. Do not attempt to transfer the cat to another cage unless you do it in an enclosed room where the cat has no chance to escape.

It is possible to catch a cat by throwing a blanket or net over it. But remember cats can bite and scratch. Laundry nets with a zip are a good way to transport frightened cats and a vet will find it easier to inject or treat a cat confined in this way. Even if you carry the cat in a cage, it is better to put the cat in a net inside.

Rescuing an animal may seem like a heroic deed. You have saved it from a certain death. But after the heroics, what next? Rescue involves you in responsibility for that animal. It will certainly involve costs for veterinary treatment and afterwards you have to consider what you are going to do with it. This is the hardest part. If you can offer that animal a warm safe place in your home, then you have really been a hero and that dog or cat will be grateful to you for the rest of its days.

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