

Veterinarian:

Animal Emergency:



KINSHIP CIRCLE

Animal Advocacy
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Disaster Rescue/Relief

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CPR STEPS FOR ANIMALS



In memory of Ethel, a 1.5 year old puppy smashed dead by a reckless driver. A golden girl who falls asleep with her head draped over one shoulder, unusually warm... like melted butter against my heart.

Ethel Jolene "Sassypants Super Model"
Born August 1, 2010
Killed February 2, 2012

If Animal Is Not Breathing

1. **a. Do not remove water from lungs if drowning.** Water does not obstruct CPR. Removal attempts may cause damage.
 - b. Try Heimlich Maneuver when all else has failed.
2. **If animal obviously choking, do Heimlich Maneuver.**
3. **Otherwise, check if breathing. Even if unconscious, check for shallow breathing. If yes go no further.**
4. **Straighten neck** — only if no trauma or break to neck.
5. **Do not try to check pulse, unless you know exactly where to find it.** Valuable time may be lost. No longer recommended (American Heart Association Journals).
6. **Straighten tongue if doubled back**, protecting self from reflexive bite (even if animal unconscious).
7. **Clear breathing passage ways:** Do not do a blind finger sweep. Look inside mouth. Clear out mucus, phlegm or vomit. Remove visible blockage carefully (so as not to push further in). Animals have a bone deep in throat at base of tongue (hyoid apparatus or Adam's apple) that can be mistaken for blockage. Tugging on this can cause grave damage.
8. **To avoid bite by an unconscious animal:** Place a roll of tape or something soft on one side of the mouth before reaching in. Animals may bite down even when unconscious. If breathing, do not go further.
9. **Breathing mouth to snout or using cupped hand:** Close animal's mouth and breathe gently but firmly into nose (with mouth directly over nose or using air tight cupped hand). Chest should rise and fall with each breath. After each breath, release your mouth to let lungs deflate.
 - **If nose is congested:** Hold nose shut with one finger. Blow into mouth holding sides of mouth air tight as possible.
 - **If breath still does not go through:** Do Heimlich Maneuver.
10. **Breaths should be 1 per every 2-3 seconds** or 20-30 breaths per minute.
Amount of air must fit the size of animal — just enough for chest to rise and fall.
11. **If animal breathes, do not continue.** Further forced breathing or CPR could hurt animal. If not breathing, repeat process until a passage is clear.
A passage must be clear for breathing/chest compression (CPR) cycle to be successful.

Begin CPR Cycle On Animal

2 BREATHS (1 every 2 seconds - depending on size) + **5 COMPRESSIONS** ♥ (in about 2-3 seconds)

1. DO 2 BREATHS + 5 RIB CAGE COMPRESSIONS:

- Animal should lie on his or her right side.
- Put heel of one hand (fingers for small animal) on rib cage where middle of foreleg touches chest when folded.
- **RATE: Do 2 breaths** (1 every 2 seconds) + **5 compressions** (in about 2-3 seconds).

2. **Be aware of size of animal while doing compressions: You are massaging the heart, not pushing it out of place.**

3. **If you feel pulse return: Continue with breaths only until the animal breathes on his or her own.**
Or continue breathing and chest compression until signs of life or self breathing.