

RABIES



I've Found a Bat! What do I do now?



Step 1

Determine if the bat had any contact or possible contact with humans or animals:

- * Contact includes bites, scratches, or other physical contact.
- * Possible contact includes finding the bat in an area with an unattended child, a person who was sleeping, a person who is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, a person with mental or sensory impairment, or a pet.

Step 2

- * Safely capture the bat (see Step 3).
- * If known contact or possible contact occurred, refer to Step 4.
- * If you are CERTAIN that there was NO POSSIBILITY OF CONTACT, the bat can be released or disposed of.

Step 3

To Safely Capture the Bat:

1. Obtain the following supplies: thick gloves, container with a tight-fitting lid, flashlight (if needed), tape, kitchen tongs or forceps, and a sheet of cardboard.
2. Close the doors and windows to the room, then wait until the bat lands. Approach slowly, placing the container over the bat.
3. Slide the cardboard sheet between the wall or surface and the container while simultaneously slipping on the lid.
4. Tape the lid to the container so the bat cannot escape and label the container so it is not accidentally opened.

Step 4

- ! Call the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Epidemiologist-on-Call (available 24/7/365) at (405) 271-4060 to discuss your risk for rabies.



Acute Disease Service
Oklahoma State
Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

For more information, call or visit us on the web:
(405) 271-4060 <http://ads.health.ok.gov>