

## What should you do if you hit an animal while driving?

For most drivers, the experience of hearing an unmistakable thud and getting out of the car and finding a dead animal on the road can be a horrible yet easily solved experience.

### 1. Ensure your safety first

Always check for oncoming traffic if you are crossing a road and that you have parked safely. It is illegal to stop for wildlife or animals on a highway. If you do see an animal on a highway call RSPCA on 1300 ANIMAL or Main Roads on 13 19 40.

### 2. Handle the animal carefully

Once the area appears safe, approach the animal quietly and calmly from behind. This is especially important if the animal is a large species, such as a kangaroo, large wallaby or other marsupial that could get aggressive when feeling threatened.

The animal should then be handled in any sort of material — a towel, blanket, clothing — to protect both you and the animal.



### 3. Cover up 'bitey bits'

It can be very dangerous to collect wildlife, as they feel threatened they may bite, kick or scratch you. It is also very important to ensure they are secured in your car. Even if they may be unconscious they may awaken and fly or jump around your car and cause an accident!



### 4. Find the closest vet

Take the wildlife to the closest vet or RSPCA wildlife hospital to ensure it receives the treatment it needs. It is against the law to keep wildlife without a permit.

All vets are obligated to offer assistance to an injured animal under the Veterinary Surgeons Act.

### 5. You won't be charged

When you bring in wildlife for treatment you will not be charged, but in doing so you will need to provide your details in case the vet has further questions or we need to contact you in case the animal has an infectious

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disease. As it is illegal for the public to keep wildlife and it is not your own animal we will not will not be able to release the animal back to you, or update you on the animal's treatment progression.

***Thankyou for helping care for our Australian wildlife. For further information contact our clinic or RSPCA on 1300 ANIMAL***

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