



BIRD RESCUE

TIPS ON WHAT TO DO



CONTACT

Bird Rescue Centre
WReNNZ Member
Local SPCA
DOC

For further information
check out our website
www.birdcare.org.nz

PLEASE NOTE

If given fluids or food
incorrectly the bird
could die.

A rescued bird's best
chance of survival is in
the care of those who
know and understand
their needs.



IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

- Do not endanger yourself or the bird
- Don't bird nap - make sure that the bird is in need of assistance
- If the bird looks orphaned, wait a while, the parent birds may be off searching for food
- If a nestling has fallen out of its nest try to put it back, making sure that it is the correct nest. Wait and watch for the parents
- If you find a fledgling on the ground and you are worried that a dog or cat might get it - put it in the nearest bush or tree. Watch it from a distance for a while, you will probably find the parent birds are not far away
- Extra care should be taken when handling large birds
- Watch for beaks and claws

HELP A BIRD IF

- There is blood, an open wound or a recognisable break
- It cannot stand on its own
- There are flies hovering around the bird
- One of its legs is hanging useless
- It cannot fly and it is not a nestling or fledgling being coached by nearby parents
- The beak is damaged or deformed
- It has oil on its feathers
- There is fishing line or string caught on the bird
- The bird has been caught by a cat even if it seems fine
- The bird is unconscious
- If the bird has difficulty breathing

WHAT TO DO

Once you have assessed the situation and you have decided that there is a need to pick up the bird, and it can be done without endangering yourself or others, do so quickly and quietly.

Use a towel or lightweight blanket to throw over the bird, it is usually quicker therefore less stressful for the bird. Place the bird in an secure, appropriate sized box with air holes and a towel on the bottom, close the lid - the darkness will calm the bird. Place in a room where it is warm, quiet and away from pets.

Warmth is critical and if it is a baby bird, duckling or an adult with its feathers fluffed up you will need to keep it warm. If you have a hot water bottle, milk bottle or container that will hold hot water from the tap, wrap this in a towel and place it under the bird. Contact a rescue centre for further advice!