I FOUND KITTENS!

Follow this flow chart to help you make the best decision for the kittens' care.

START

Are the kittens sick or hurt?

YES

Bring to Austin Animal Center between 11 am and 5 pm. If outside of these hours and the kittens need immediate attention, take them to Central Texas Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Hospital (North or South).

NO

Estimate the age of the kittens



O-2 WEEKS

Eves still closed o

Eyes still closed or just beginning to open



2-4 WEEKS

Eyes open and alert; starting to explore



4-6 WEEKS

Very mobile and talkative; can eat solid food



6-8 WEEKS

Very active and playful; around 1-2 lbs



8+ WEEKS

Very active and playful; weighs 2+ lbs

Is the mother cat caring for the kittens?

YES

NO

Leave the kittens where they are. When they are 4-6 weeks old, follow the instructions to the right for their age. Contact the Community Cats program for assistance with trapping the mother cat to get spayed.

Are you sure? Mom cats need to hunt and a nervous mom cat may not return if you are present. Make a ring of flour around the kittens and check back in 6 hours for mom's pawprints. Another tip is to see if the kittens are fat, clean, and quiet; that means they are being taken care of.

YES I'M SURE

Bring to Austin Animal Center Mon-Fri 11 am to 7 pm Sat-Sun 11 am to 5 pm

Are you willing to care for the kittens?

YES

NIO

You're truly a lifesaver by keeping kittens out of the shelter! See "Keeping Cats & Kittens Out of the Shelter" for guidance or contact us for support and supplies.

Bring to Austin Animal Center Mon-Fri 11 am to 7 pm Sat-Sun 11 am to 5 pm

CONTACT US

communitycats@austintexas.gov pet.resources@austintexas.gov

TIPS

- Kittens need to be fed a formula made for cats. Never feed cow's milk to an orphaned kitten.
- Mom cats set up their kittens in safe places. Leave found kittens where they are unless they're in immediate danger.
- ★ Kittens have a much higher survival rate if they stay with mom at least until weaned (4-6 weeks old).

