

FLOW CHART NO 1

**Found a bird in distress?
START HERE**

Please try to answer the questions below. If one of the answers is YES, then follow the path accordingly.

- 1. Is the bird unconscious?
- 2. Is the bird sitting in the open and appears to be sleeping?
- 3. Does the bird seem to be struggling to breathe?
- 4. Are there any signs of serious bleeding?
- 5. Does the bird appear to be in shock?
- 6. Are there any obvious bone fractures?
- 7. Is the bird unable to stand, wobbly or unsteady on its feet?
- 8. Does the bird try to fly and fails?
- 9. Does the bird appear to be in pain when trying to move?
- 10. Has the bird been in contact with a cat, even if there are no visible injuries?

YES

SECURE THE BIRD AND CONTACT RESCUE (See red box)

NO

Please try to establish the approximate age group of bird.

HATCHLINGS
1. Not ready to leave the nest.
2. Generally naked with few wispy or downy feathers on bare skin.
3. Eyes are usually closed.
4. Beak may seem abnormally large compared to the size of the head.

Now go to Flowchart Number 2 and continue with Hatchlings.

NESTLINGS
1. Not ready to leave the nest.
2. Eyes are often open.
3. Have more of their actual feathers.
4. Feathers are often still in their sheaths.

Now go to Flowchart Number 2 and continue with Nestlings.

FLEDGLINGS
1. Ready to leave the nest.
2. Have most of their adult feathers.
3. Tails and wings are usually still pretty short.
4. Plumage can be dull in colour.
5. Can hop, flutter and walk with little problem.
6. Normal to be found on the ground.
7. It will usually take a couple of days to be able to fly properly.

Now go to Flowchart Number 2 and continue with Fledglings.

JUVENILES
1. Fully developed plumage and are usually fully independent.
2. May still follow their parents.
3. May not fully look like their adult counterparts, as some species change into the adult plumage in their second, third or even third year of life.

Now go to Flowchart Number 2 and continue with Juveniles and Adults.

CONTACT RESCUE Get in touch as soon as possible with an experienced bird rescue or rehabilitator in your area. If it is safe, secure the bird and put him or her into a padded and well ventilated secure carrier. Make sure to take appropriate precautions when handling a potentially dangerous bird. If in doubt what to do and what is safe, stay with the bird until an experienced rescuer arrives to secure the bird. Do not give any food or water to the bird. Time is of an essence for the survival of the bird.