

I Found a Bird. What do I do now?

Warmth

The number one need of any sick, injured or baby bird is to be kept warm.

Unlike mammals, birds do not burn fat to keep warm. It is not enough to wrap a bird in a towel like you might wrap a puppy or baby. Unless the bird feels VERY WARM to your touch, it needs an external source of heat such as a heating pad set to low. Only a thin towel should be between the bird and the heat. If you don't have a heating pad, put HOT water in a watertight jar, use a cup of coffee with a snug lid, or heat a bag of raw rice or bird seed in the microwave for a few minutes. Reheat as needed.

Cable TV boxes, computers, and other electronic devices may emit a comparable, safe amount of steady heat. The source of your heat should be warm to your hand, not hot. Place a paper towel over the heat source so the bird can perch on top or snuggle next to it to get warm, and cover with layers of tissue so you can remove them as they become soiled.

Make sure there is room for the bird to move away from the heat if it is too warm. Birds are naturally 102-106 degrees Fahrenheit, but if the bird is panting, it's too warm.

A cold bird is in **SERIOUS DANGER**. If the bird feels cold or cool to the touch, turn the heating pad up to medium for a few minutes, but stay alert, monitor the bird. It is all too easy to overheat. Another way to rapidly raise the bird's temperature is to use a hand dryer on warm-heat, held at a distance from the bird. This will be stressful for the bird, so try and minimize other stress factors around you.

Hydration

The second most important thing to provide a sick or injured bird is water.

Please note, babies being fed formula need no additional water. There is enough moisture in the formula. Let room temperature fluid such as pedia lite or fruit juice drip from a straw/eyedropper onto the bird's beak tip. If the bird is thirsty you will see the moisture absorbed between the bird's beak

Food

Third most important is proper nutrition. A bird's diet depends on what type of bird it is. It is important to identify bird type before feeding. That can be done using a veterinarian or a knowledgeable rehabilitator.

Formula for baby birds is sold at most pet stores. Using cold tap water (warmed in the microwave, as water-heater tank-water is very alkaline), mix it only to the consistency of soup. Alternatives: crushed papaya, human baby food from a jar, hard-cooked egg yolk, mashed tofu. Tiny birds may need to eat every half-hour (daylight hours only). Tweezers, toothpicks, eyedroppers, or straws can be used to deliver the food.

These recommendations are only for the first 24 hours after finding the bird. Please call 447-9274 or visit our website at wildbirdrehabhaven.org for information on different species of birds and their particular dietary needs, etc.

The preceding instructions DO NOT apply to SEA BIRDS.

Wild Bird Rehab Haven of Hawaii

P.O. Box 1897

Kailua, HI 96734

(808) 447-9274

wildbirdrehabhaven.org



About Wild Bird Rehab Haven

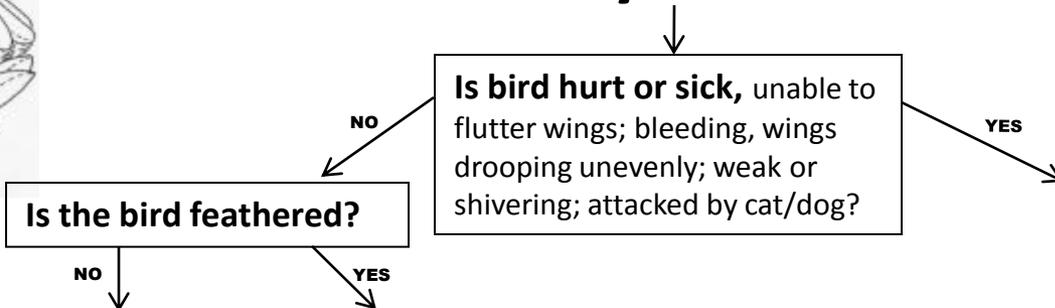
Founded in 2003, Wild Bird Rehab Haven of the Hawaiian Islands is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, a network of wild bird rehabilitators and caring volunteers. We heal, foster and release wild birds back to their natural habitats. We also teach classes on baby bird care and help for the sick and injured birds on Oahu.

To better accomplish this, we are planning an island-wide intake center which will allow, in one location, bird rehabilitation, public education programs and a permanent home for any bird unable to survive in the wild.

Want to help? Until we secure an intake center *we need more foster caregivers, to temporarily house and care for birds.*

Visit our website at wildbirdrehabhaven.org for volunteer opportunities and ways you can contribute financially. Gifts are tax deductible.
(808) 447-9274

I Found a Baby Bird - Now What?

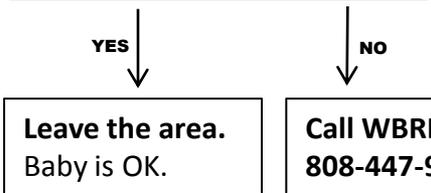


It's a nestling.
(needs help!)
*Can you find the nest?
Is it intact? Is it safe?*




Make a substitute nest.
Use a small container; line with dry grass or leaves, or the old nest; hang securely or duct tape to original or another nearby tree.

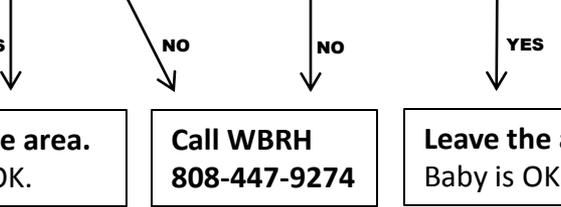
Put baby in nest.
Observe up to an hour, hidden from view.
Are parents visiting nest?



It's a fledgling. (Normal behavior to be hopping on ground; parents are still feeding it.)
Is bird safe from cats, dogs, cars, and people?




Put bird in bushes or on a tree limb nearby.
Watch from a distance.
Are parents nearby?



A BABY BIRD'S BEST CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL IS WITH ITS PARENTS!!
Parent birds WILL NOT REJECT a baby after being handled by humans!

Call Wild Bird Rehab Haven (WBRH) 808-447-9274
Please leave a message and we'll return your call. For instructions on helping birds please read the reverse side of this flyer or visit our website: www.wildbirdrehabhaven.org

If you wish to take an injured bird to an avian veterinarian here is a partial list on Oahu:

Aloha Animal Hospital, Kahala. 808-734-2242
Feather and Fur, Kailua. 808-254-1548
Kailua Animal Clinic. 808-263-8863
Mililani Mauka Vet Clinic. 808-626-7600
The Pet Doctor, Kahala. 808-733-8828

WBRH is authorized by the state of Hawaii to rehabilitate introduced species of birds. Seabirds may be taken to Sea Life Park on Oahu: 808-259-2537. Do not force food or water on sea birds. Place birds in a box with air holes, and take to a trained rehabilitator as soon as possible. Note that ground-nesting seabird parents are gone from dawn to dusk. Disturb babies only if found in an unsafe place.

WBRH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity run by volunteers and supported by caring and concerned citizens like you. Your tax deductible donations pay for wild bird rescue and rehabilitation, and are greatly appreciated!

Wild Bird Rehab Haven
P.O. Box 1897
Kailua, HI 96734