



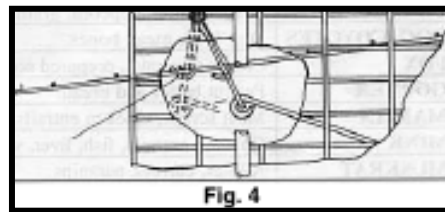
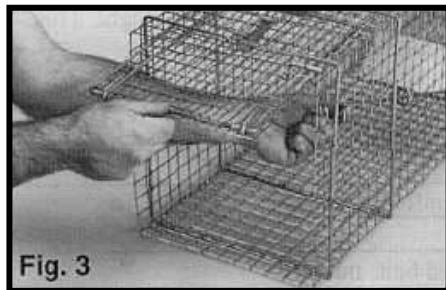
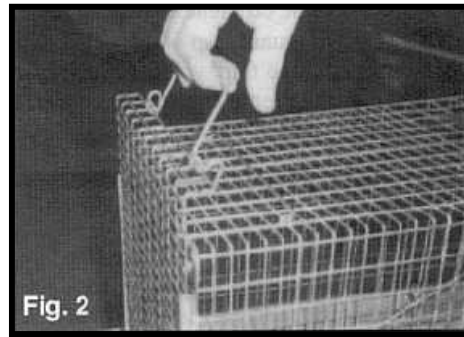
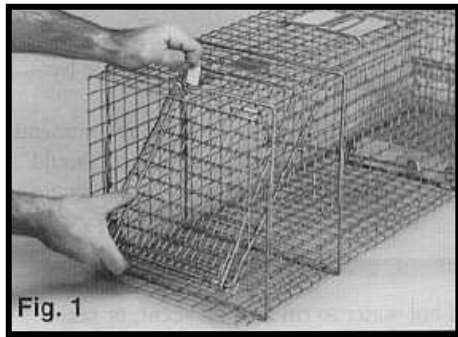
How to set a Humane Live Trap

The Rancho Cucamonga Animal Care and Adoption Center's (RCACAC) Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) program uses *humane live traps* to trap feral cats. Traps can come in many sizes to capture anything from a hamster to a large dog, but the ones we use most routinely are for cats. These traps are called "live traps" because they do not harm the animal and capture cats alive and well.

RCACAC provides traps only to those residents interested in participating in the TNR program.

To better assist you, we have provided instructions on how to set the traps accurately.

1. At one end of the trap is a flat side, with a slideable door. There is a handle to open this door. As you pull it up, you will see that a security wire unhinges to allow the door to slide up and out (Figure 2).
2. Place food in this opening at the rear of trap but NOT on the bait tray.
3. When closing the sliding door, make sure the handle latches are positioned under the top wire of trap so that it is secure. Snap the security lock over the top of the handle.
4. Now go to the front of the trap (this part has the angled snap door). This takes a bit of maneuvering but you will need to push the vertical part of the door flush with the angled part (Figure 1) and lift both until they are horizontal and the trap is now open (Figure 3).
5. With your free hand, reach inside the trap and pull the trigger mechanism forward (Figure 3) until the hook engages the wire of the door (Figure 4). Hold the trigger in place until after you release the door. It should stay open.
6. The trap is now set in ready position. If you'd like to test the trap, use a pen or stick to trigger the bait tray from outside the trap through the wires. It should snap closed quickly. If it does not, you may need to use some lubrication (such as WD-40 or petroleum jelly) and/or make sure the trap is clean.



Trapping Tips

1. We recommend you wash the trap with soap and hot water to rid it of all scent. You can also place the trap outdoors for several days so that any former scents dissipate.
2. When handling the trap you may want to use gloves to protect you as some edges can be quite sharp.
3. If you inadvertently capture wildlife, a neighbor's pet or a cat that has already been altered, you can simply open the sliding door at the back of the trap and allow the animal to leave the trap and re-set it.
4. The trap should be set in a place that any confined animal will be free of stressors as much as possible (i.e dogs, traffic, children). We recommend covering the trap with a light sheet and allowing the opening to remain uncovered. This gives a sense of security and often increases the chance of catching a cat and also decreasing stimuli that may cause the cat to injure him/herself in the trap.
5. When trapping cats, use canned food as bait (the smellier the better!) but do not leave the food in the can as the edges are sharp and may cut a cat's mouth. Do not provide any other type of food item outside of the trap as cats will choose this option.
6. If you are having trouble catching a cat, here are some solutions:
 - try closing the trap and not setting it for many days. Provide food outside the trap to keep the cat(s) close by and then try again after a few days with the food only inside the trap.

- Wash the trap – there may be smells from another cat or animal.
- Move the trap elsewhere. Cats move along perimeters so think like a cat, not a human when setting it. Put the trap where the cats are.
- Ask your neighbors to stop putting food out while you are trapping. If cats can find easy food out in the open at your neighbor's house, they will. They will even eat dog food if it's left out.
- Make sure to trap at dusk and at night. Cats are nocturnal (active at night) and even though you may see some during the day, they are more active at night.
- Place newspaper on the bottom of the trap so that it covers the bait tray as well. Sometimes cats are unsure of walking on a grated bottom and the newspaper provides a more comfortable surface for walking.