Preparing to Trap

1. Familiarize yourself with the parts of the rescue cage and how they operate (illustration 1).
2. Allowing the cat to become familiar with the cage before trapping is often helpful. The best way to do this is to place the cage where the cat is used to feeding. Secure the cage door open with the door hook (see Using the Door Hook). Do not set the cage. Placing bait in the cage at this time is optional.
3. It is advantageous if the cat is hungry before you trap. You may want to suggest to anyone feeding the stray cat to refrain for a few days.
4. Decide upon your course of action once the cat is caught. Make sure you have an area in your house that you will be able to keep the cat if you are unable to transport it immediately (a garage, spare room, etc.). It is advisable to place newspaper or a tarp on the floor so that you can place the cage on it.

Setting Up The Stray Cat Rescue Cage

1. Study illustration 1 to familiarize yourself with the parts of the cage.
2. With one hand, grab the handle (#1) on the top of the cage. Lift the cage. Cage will drop into place (illustration 2).
3. Notice the frame rods (#2 & #3) are hanging below the cage. Gently lower the cage to the ground so that the open ends of the frame rods point to the back of the cage (illustration 3).
4. Bring the front frame rod (#2) up to the front frame clips (#4). Hold the frame clips out one at a time and snap the front frame rod into place (illustration 4).
Remember to clip both sides of the front frame rod.
5. Repeat step 4 for the back frame rod (#3). Remember to clip both sides of the back frame rod into the back frame clips (#5).
6. Remove the U-shaped lock rod (#6) from storage area at top of the cage (illustration 5). After removing the lock rod, close back panel (#7). Back panel should swing down when lock rod is removed.
7. Turn cage so you are facing the back panel (#7). With the straight end of the U-shaped lock rod (#6) closest to the ground, take your right hand and thread the straight end of the lock rod through the bottom hole of the retainer clip (#8) and the hooked part of the lock rod through the side of the cage (illustration 6). Thread rod through two retainer rings attached to the back panel so the back of the cage is secure. Thread straight end of lock rod through the bottom hole of the retainer clip on the left side of the cage. With your left hand secure the hooked part of the lock rod to the left side of the cage (illustration 7).
8. Remove trigger rod (#14) from storage area at the top of the cage (illustration 8). Tipping cage away from you, thread trigger into loops on the underside of trigger pan (#9, illustration 9). Return cage to its upright position.
9. Cage is now set up.
10. Carton may be retained for cage storage.

Baiting the Stray Cat Rescue Cage

1. Remove U-shaped lock rod (#6) from the back panel (#7) by pressing in on left side of cage to release hooked part of lock rod. Pull back panel toward you.
2. While holding back panel up, place the bait approximately two inches from the back of the cage. Do not place bait on the trigger pan (#9).
3. Tip: One suggestion is to place the bait on a small square of tin foil approximately 4"x4" in size. This will allow you to place the bait and bait juice in the cage.

3. Close back panel & relock using U-shaped lock rod.

REMEMBER: Always bait the cage before setting it.

Setting the Stray Cat Rescue Cage

TIP: Any camouflage or material you use to hide the cage, including the cover, should not interfere with the operation of the cage in any way.

1. Viewing cage from front, position yourself on the right-hand side of cage.
2. Lift the lock (#10) with your right hand.
3. Place the forefinger of your left hand through the loop (#11) on the door of the cage and with your thumb, push the lock frame (#12) and lift the door (illustration 10).
4. Set cage by pulling metal trigger (#13) forward with your right thumb and forefinger until door is secured by trigger hook (illustration 11).
5. Gently release door. Cage is set.
6. Trip cage to make sure it is working properly. Trip cage using a pen or
pencil, sticking an end through the side of the cage and pushing down on the end of the trigger pan.

**Tips:** For smaller cats, use a light trigger release setting. Place just the tip of the trigger rod under the door cross rod (illustration 12)

**Using the Door Hook**
It is often helpful to let the cat become familiar with the cage before you set it to capture the cat. The door hook lets you keep the door open, allowing the cat to enter and leave the cage on its own accord.

7. Open the door as if you are setting the cage and hold it there.
8. Insert the shorter curved end of the door hook beside the trigger and hook it under the door cross rod (illustration 13).
9. Lock the top of the hook over the mesh wire and release door.

**Using the Cage Divider**
If you need to temporarily feed and water a captured cat, the cage divider allows you to work in the back of the cage, while the cat is contained at the front.

10. First, consider how much working area you need to create in the cage and then determine where you want to insert the divider based on the space needed.
11. Approach cage cautiously and quietly so you don’t excite the cat.
12. Stand cage on door end with handle on your right.
13. Grasp divider so that rod with hooked end is to the right, and insert divider so that last rod on left is in the third mesh space from the bottom of the cage (illustration 14).
14. Push divider straight through all the way, making sure that you hook the double wire on other side (illustration 14a).
15. Lower cage back to ground.
16. You now can open back panel to access rear of cage.
17. Pull out the U-shaped lock rod at the back of the cage by pressing in on left side of cage and releasing hook on lock rod. When finished, return cage to its normal position and remove divider.

**Transferring Cat Into A Crate Or Carrier/ Placing Food and Water in the Cage**

1. Follow the instructions above for divider use. Make sure the divider is placed deep enough in the cage so that the back panel can swing freely into the cage.
2. Once the divider is in place, pull out the U-shaped lock rod at the back of the cage by pressing in on left side of cage and releasing hook on lock rod.
3. Swing the back panel to the inside of the cage and insert the shorter hooked end of the door tool through the top of the cage.
4. Hook panel bottom with the shorter hooked end of the tool, lift and lock the top of the hook over the mesh wire (illustration 15).
5. *To feed:* While the divider is secure, open the back panel. Place food and water into cage. Secure back panel and remove divider.
6. *To transfer:* While the divider is secure, place the now open end of the cage
against the crate or carrier that the cat will be transferred into.

7. Remove divider and cat will transfer into the crate/carrier. Secure crate.

Relocating Captured Cats

Note:
Note: Check with your local humane league, animal shelter, or local or state Game Commission to determine the acceptable method of relocating a captured stray cat.

CAUTION: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO HANDLE CAPTURED CATS. DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED NEAR A CAPTURED CAT.

Releasing Captured Cat Through Back Panel

1. Approach the cage cautiously and quietly so you don't excite the animal. Stand cage on front door.
2. Pull out the U-shaped lock rod at the back of the cage by pressing in on left side of cage and releasing hook on lock rod. When finished, return cage to its normal position.
3. Stand clear of the cat's exit path. Use hook of the U-shaped lock rod to hook the bottom of the back panel and pull back panel outward--pull out and up (illustration 16).
4. The cat will exit the cage on its own.

Releasing Captured Cat Through Cage Door

1. Lift lock (#10) on cage.
2. Lift the door up and insert door hook into mesh and cross rod. Release door. (illustration 10).
3. Walk away from cage. Cat will exit cage.

Collapsing the Stray Cat Rescue Cage

1. Remove U-shaped lock rod from the back panel.
2. Face cage so trigger cable is toward you.
3. Unclip front and back frame rods. Lay frame rods flat.
4. Tip cage away from you, pull trigger rod out of trigger pan. Place trigger rod end into the storage area in the mesh at the top of the cage.
5. With right hand, lift door lock on cage.
6. Lift cage door and hold open with left hand.
7. With right hand, push back panel toward the front of cage and hold it open.
8. Collapse cage by pushing top of cage away from you and then down. Fold bottom of cage under the top of cage.
9. Fold cage so that trigger cable is down (on bottom of cage).
10. Place U-shaped lock rod in the storage area (top one inch of mesh) at the back of the cage so that back panel is secure.
11. Retain carton for cage storage.