

4. Wrap the joey gently in a blanket and put it in a pouch. Keep it at your body temperature. Do not handle it more than you need to, especially if it is still hairless and pink.
5. Get advice from your local contact or vet. If it will be a while until you can get your joey to foster care, put some water in a dropper and gently squeeze some into or near the joey's mouth. Be careful not to give it too much at once – it will only need a little until it is placed in its foster situation.

If the adult wombat is still alive but injured, great care is needed. A distressed and injured animal can be very dangerous. Unless you have training and equipment to help you manage the safe capture of an adult wombat, it is best to report the injured animal's position to your local contact. Rescues of large wombats are rare.

The main causes for adult wombat rescue include illness from mange or non-fatal injuries sustained from being hit by a vehicle. Wombats are extremely tough – if hit many will survive and run off even if the vehicle doesn't!

If you come across a wombat that is disabled, the chances for its survival and healing are not good. Experienced help is recommended, and the animal may need to be euthanased. If you cannot reach your local contact a neighbouring farmer may come to put the animal out of its misery. Do not attempt to take a joey from the pouch of an injured wombat until she has been immobilised. Do not attempt to move the wombat yourself. If it is in the way of traffic, try to set up some sort of warning until the animal can be safely moved off the road. Remember – your safety comes first.



www.wombatprotection.org.au
Email info@wombatprotection.org.au
Mail PO Box 6045 Quaama NSW 2550
Phone 02 6493 8245

LOCAL CONTACT



Wombat Rescue

WHAT TO DO



Wombat Rescue

This brochure will help you to know what to do if you come across a wounded or dead wombat in your travels, and in particular, how to rescue a joey wombat still alive in the pouch of a dead mother. If you need further advice please phone your local contact.

When you rescue a wombat it is useful for the people who will be caring for that animal to have the following information, so please complete the notes below after the rescue.

Rescue Notes

DATE & TIME FOUND:

REASON FOR RESCUE: *(e.g. parent hit by vehicle)*

CONDITION WHEN FOUND:

TREATMENT GIVEN: *(e.g. what has been done with the wombat)*

A RECOMMENDED RESCUE KIT

1. One blanket
2. One pouch, large enough for a big joey, e.g. a pillowcase
3. Two pairs of disposable gloves
4. Antiseptic wipes
5. One bottle of water
6. One eye dropper
7. This information brochure.

In addition, you may like to have these items in your vehicle at all times to make rescue easier:

- Torch
- Scissors
- Pawpaw ointment *(natural wound cleaner and healer)*
- Assorted bandages
- 'Wet Ones' *(alcoholic hand wipes to clean your hands after rescue).*

Rescue Instructions

If you hit a wombat or see one by the road:

Stop your vehicle in a safe area and switch on the hazard lights.

1. If the animal is dead, turn the wombat gently onto its back and pull it off the road using the front paws.
2. If it is a female, you will notice a small opening low on her belly. This is the pouch. Inside the pouch are two teats. If there has been no joey, both will be small and compact. If a joey is no longer there but has been recently you will notice that one teat is elongated, pale and flattened. This is a clue that there may have been a joey in the pouch at the time of the accident, but it has been big enough to leave the pouch and wander away. You should then search the bush nearby, although mobile joeys will be frightened and will try to escape.
3. If there is a joey in the pouch, gently detach it from the teat. If this is difficult to do, cut the teat rather than yank the joey off.

