

WHAT TO DO IF A BABOON GETS INTO YOUR HOUSE



Having a baboon in your house can be a startling experience, but it is important to know that the baboon is only looking for food and does not wish to harm you. Conflict can arise however if the baboon feels threatened or cornered.

REMAIN CALM

The baboon may feel trapped and is likely to find your arrival stressful. By keeping calm, with no sudden movements, you are less likely to incite a negative interaction. Trapped animals can be unpredictable, chaotic movement and loud noises can exacerbate their fear. The calmer you are, the calmer the baboon will be.

AVOID EYE CONTACT – Staring can be seen as a threat.

DO NOT TRY TO TAKE ANYTHING AWAY FROM A BABOON

If the baboon picked something up other than food, it will inspect it and eventually drop it. Confronting the baboon to retrieve something could cause an aggressive response or cause the baboon to flee with your item.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LURE THE BABOON OUT OF YOUR PROPERTY USING FOOD

Apart from being illegal, this will only teach a baboon that humans are a direct source of food, thus emboldening their behaviour around humans.

KEEP PETS AWAY

Whenever possible, place pets in another room where they cannot interact with the baboon. Never set a dog on a baboon as this can lead to serious injury for both the baboon and dog.

PROVIDE AS MANY EXIT ROUTES AS POSSIBLE

Identify the nearest exit and ensure that you are not blocking it. If possible, without cornering or getting too close to the baboon, open more windows and doors to provide multiple escape routes. The baboon is then less likely to panic or react aggressively.

ENCOURAGE THE BABOON TO LEAVE

Habituated baboons are more challenging to move along.

Methods that you can try are:

- Clapping your hands
- Banging two pots together
- Spraying the baboon with water

IMPORTANT: Ensure that you do not corner the baboon, get too close to them, or block their exit during this process.

**BABOON
HOTLINE**

**IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO ENCOURAGE A BABOON TO LEAVE
YOUR HOUSE, PLEASE PHONE THE BABOON HOTLINE FOR
ASSISTANCE AT 071 588 6540.**



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