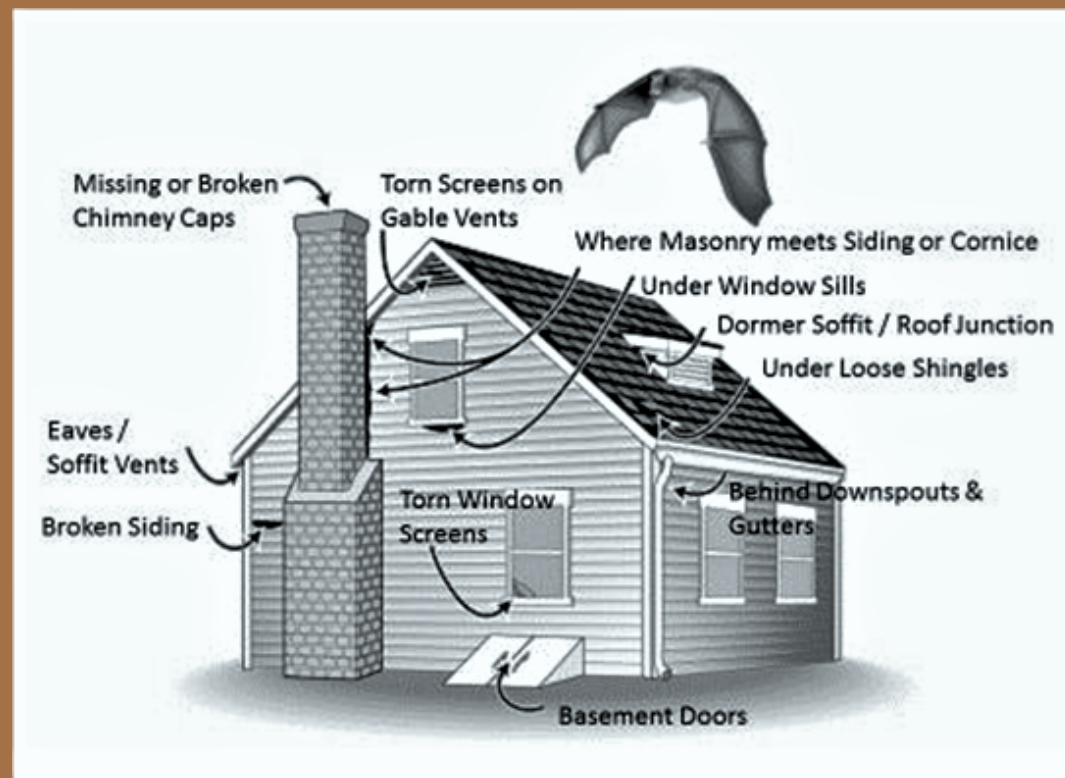


# WHY IS THERE A CONCERN ABOUT BATS AND RABIES?

Rabies in humans is rare in the United States. There are usually 1-2 human cases per year. The most common source of human rabies in the United States is from bats. The good news is that most bats don't have rabies. But you can't tell if a bat has rabies just by looking at it. Rabies can only be confirmed in a laboratory.

# COMMON ENTRY POINTS FOR BATS



Johnson County Public Health

# BATS IN THE HOUSE

RABIES AND BATS



PEOPLE CANNOT GET RABIES FROM BAT GUANO (FECES), BLOOD, OR URINE, OR FROM TOUCHING A BATS FUR.

# KEEPING BATS OUT OF YOUR HOUSE

You can contact an animal-control or wildlife conservation agency for assistance with bat-proofing your home or bat infestation.



Johnson County Public Health  
(319) 356-6040  
855 S. Dubuque Street Iowa City, IA  
52240

# BATS HAVE SMALL TEETH THAT MAY LEAVE MARKS NOT EASILY SEEN

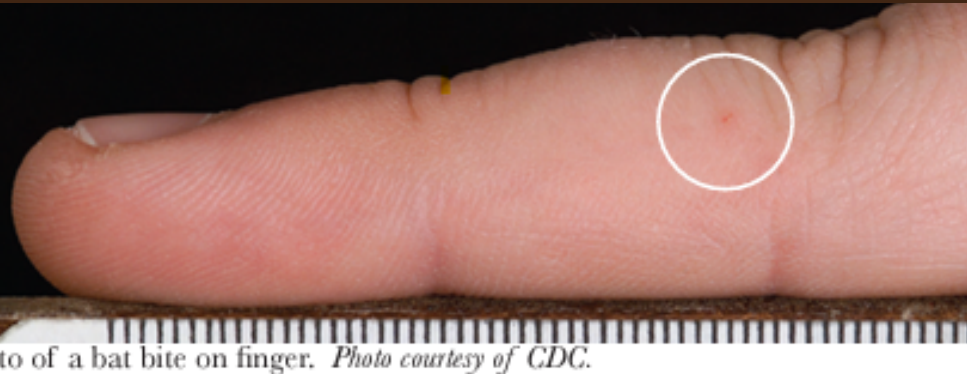


Photo of a bat bite on finger. Photo courtesy of CDC.

Although most people know if they have been bitten by a bat, there are certain situations when a person might not be aware or able to tell if they have been bitten. For example ...

- If a person has slept in a room with a bat.
- If you find a bat in a room with an unattended child or an individual unable to communicate.
- In these cases, a person should seek medical attention and have the bat tested for rabies.

In all cases, contact local public health departments for assistance with medical advice and testing bats for rabies. If a bat cannot be confirmed as negative, rabies post-exposure treatment may need to be considered.



# TO CAPTURE THE BAT

**Avoid injuring the head of the bat. The bat's brain must be intact in order to perform rabies test.**

## 1- Preparing

Put on gloves and wait for the bat to land on a wall or the floor. Once it has landed slowly approach the bat and cover with the container.

## 2- Capturing the Bat

Keeping the container flat against the wall, slide the flat cardboard or lid between the wall and bat.

## 3- Sealing the Container

Carefully lift the container and lid away from the wall and tape shut.

## Contacting JCPH

For questions about exposure, bats and rabies, or to report a bat bit call:

**319-356-6040**

and ask to talk to a Disease Prevention Specialist

## Items Needed

- Gloves
- Coffee can or plastic container
  - Do not use cardboard or items that the bat can bite through
- Flat piece of cardboard or lid
- Tape