

Advanced Concepts in Search and Rescue Tip Sheet

SAR teams' systematic and coordinated efforts include breaking off into 3 groups with the following responsibilities

1. Canvassing neighbours (e.g., knocking on doors to ask about the missing person)
2. Searching properties in the vicinity of the point last seen
3. Searching the path of the least resistance

Important factors for the search

- Temperature/weather conditions
- Darkness
- Time the person has gone missing

Other considerations

- **Specialized equipment** is used (e.g., night vision goggles and thermal cameras)
- **GPS data** provide constant updates such as locations searched, climate conditions, weather updates, speed of searchers, and time stamps
- Searchers aren't solely looking for the missing person. They are **looking for clues** and interpreting them. However, this is challenging as missing persons with dementia leave fewer clues behind (e.g., leave the house wearing slippers which do not leave obvious footprints; also, persons with dementia may not respond to their names being called)
- While searches are challenging, being informed of **previous data, statistics, and research** will significantly increase the odds of finding the missing person with dementia