

## WHAT IS A MICROCHIP?

A microchip is about the size of a grain of rice and is encoded with a unique ID number that will be assigned to your pet. No two microchips have the same ID number.

The microchip is placed between your dog's or cat's shoulder blades under a veterinarian's supervision.

Implantation is quick, easy and virtually painless — similar to a vaccine injection — and can be performed during a regular veterinary check-up visit.



## HOW A MICROCHIP IS READ

A microchip is not a tracking device. It can only be "turned on" for a few seconds at a time by a handheld microchip scanner that is passed over the area the microchip is implanted to read the microchip's unique ID number.

Veterinarians and shelters have these scanners and use them to help lost pets all of the time.

Veterinarians also check pet's microchips during annual wellness exams to make sure all is working properly and secondly to start a conversation about whether or not your information is up to date on your pet's microchip enrollment record.

## ALL ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF MICROCHIPPING YOUR PET

If your pet's collar breaks or its collar tag falls off or becomes hard to read, a microchip permanently identifies your pet to help your pet get back to you if it's lost or stolen.

## WHY ENROLLING A MICROCHIP IS IMPORTANT

As a member of AAHA Pet Microchip Lookup, we enroll any brand of microchip! When you enroll your pet's microchip, your pet's ID is linked to your name, phone numbers, emergency contacts and other vital information in AKC Reunite's database. When your lost pet is found, we can then immediately send you text messages, emails and begin contacting all the phone numbers on your pet's record to reunite you as quickly as possible.