

# Meet The Microchip

The basics you need to know about keeping your pet safe



## Microchips Can't Work Without You

With over 100 pet microchip companies across the world, keeping your pet's information updated is crucial.

In the United States, there is no national database for microchip information, so the reuniting process is tricky. If a pet is found and brought to a shelter, the shelter scans the pet and receives a barcode. They enter the barcode in [www.petmicrochiplookup.org](http://www.petmicrochiplookup.org) (a manufacturer database by the AAHA or American Animal Hospital Association), which gives them the likely microchip manufacturer. Then the shelter must call the manufacturer to find the owner's contact information. Phew! With so many steps to find a lost pet, it becomes crucial that you know your stuff. Know what company you and your vet use, register your pet, and keep your info updated! You can also upgrade your registration for helpful tools like lost/found pet text alerts. Ask your company for more details.

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### ASK YOUR VET

Ask your vet which **microchip company** they use so you can stay updated. Also get your pet's **barcode**

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### REGISTER

On this company's website, click **"REGISTER"**  
Make an account by following the prompts

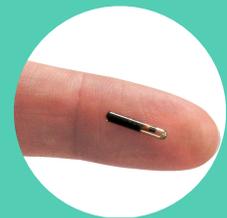
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### KEEP IT UPDATED

August 15th is **Check The Chip Day!** Add it to your calendar and always keep it updated on their website

### The Big Hitters

- Save This Life
- PetLink
- Home Again
- AVID
- 24 Petwatch



### Are they safe?

Yes! Microchips are RFIDs (Radio Frequency Identification Tags), which means they do not emit anything unless they are scanned. When they are scanned, the radio frequencies still have no effect on your pet's health.

### Where do I register?

Register by phone or website with the company your vet used to chip your pet. You may also register with other companies if you choose. If you choose to register with multiple companies, update all of them!

# THE NEED-TO-KNOW ON THE BIG HITTERS

The basics on the biggest US Microchip Companies

COMPANY	REGISTERED WITH AAHA*	REGISTERED WITH GOOGLE**	ISO COMPLIANT (UK/TRAVEL COMPLIANT)***	COST
SAVE THIS LIFE	✓	✓	✓	Free if prepaid chip through vet; One time fee \$23.98 individual
PETLINK	✓	✗	✓	Free; Must be through vet
AKC REUNITE	✓	✗	✗	Prepaid chips through vet is free; One time fee \$17.50 individual; + \$19.95 Pet Poison Helpline; + \$15 Lost Pet Alerts
HOMEAGAIN	✓	✗	✓	Free if prepaid chip through vet for basic; \$19.99/year for Premium
AVID	✓	✗	✗	One time fee \$19.95
24PETWATCH	✓	✗	✗	\$21.95/year Annual Membership; \$74.95/year Lifetime Protection Membership

\* The AAHA only includes companies whose microchip barcodes have 3 distinguishing manufacturer digits at the beginning.

\*\* Save This Life is the only company who works with Google to make their barcodes able to be found on Google Search

\*\*\* The ISO (International Organization for Standardization) set aside international standards for microchips that the US has not legally adopted, but many European countries have. This is important to consider if you travel with your pet often.

## EVEN THE AAHA DATABASE IS LIMITED

While most big microchip companies can be identified by the first few numbers of their barcodes, some local companies can't.

The AAHA Database compiled barcodes from the following companies to help shelters bring lost pets home. Make sure your pet's microchip is registered with one (or more) of these companies.

- 24PetWatch Pet Protection Services
- 911PetChip & Free Pet Chip Registry
- ACA MARRS
- AKC Reunite
- BC Pet Registry
- EIDAP
- Found Animals
- Furreka
- HomeAgain
- Homeward Bound Pet
- InfoPET
- Microchip I.D. Solutions
- Microchip ID Systems, Inc.
- Nanochip ID Inc.
- National Animal Identification Center
- PetKey
- PetLink
- Petstablished
- Save This Life
- SmartTag Microchip