



What to look for in a quality microchip

Microchips | Recovery | Giving Back

Recent research shows pets with microchips are up to 20 times more likely to be reunited with their owners than pets without microchips. * There are many options available today, making pet microchipping more affordable and accessible. Some companies have been around for 20+ years, others are new entrants to the market with little or no experience in companion animal ID. So when choosing a microchip program, there are important things to consider, beyond price to ensure your pets are protected for their lifetime.

Is the microchip ISO compliant or ISO compatible? There is a difference.

- ISO compliant microchips are certified by ICAR for fully conforming to the ISO 11784 requirements for coding the microchip. Per ISO 24631-3, and the manufacturer has signed the Code of Conduct stating that they will not produce duplicate ID codes.
- ISO compatible means that although the transponders can be read by FDX-b compatible microchip readers, the coding may be anything the seller or user desires, including a phone number, owner's social security number, non-unique ID numbers or anything else. Microchips that are ISO compatible run the risk of having duplicates.

How and of what materials is a microchip manufactured?

- If a microchip is tinted, oftentimes greenish in color, it is made from bioglass, a medical-grade material approved for use inside the body. Bioglass can be laser sealed allowing for a seamless design that will help ensure the lifetime integrity of the microchip.
- A microchip with clear glass is not made with bioglass, meaning the entire transponder is heated during the sealing process. Overheating the electronic transponder can impact the longevity of the microchip. It is also possible clear glass contains lead.

AKC Reunite 134.2 kHz microchips are ISO 11784/85 FDX-B compliant and ISO 24631-3 certified by ICAR.

Microchips are manufactured by Trovan in Germany and sterilized in an ISO 13485 medical-certified facility - the same process used for human medical devices.

Each AKC Reunite microchip is encapsulated in 100% bioglass and features an all-in-one syringe delivery device with medical-grade, extra-sharp, double bevel needles for easy insertion.

Helping pets for over 20 years - 800-252-7894 - microchip@akcreunite.org

What is the read range of the microchip?

- Some microchip providers are offering “mini” chips. Delivered in a needle that is only one gauge smaller, these smaller microchips oftentimes have half of the read range of the conventional microchips.
- Most microchip readers have read ranges of only a few inches, meaning the smaller microchips will be especially difficult to find when implanted in thick-skinned, heavily coated or overweight pets.

You need a scanner to microchip...

- Microchipping best practices are to scan the pet for presence of a microchip prior to implanting, then to scan the microchip in its packaging to verify the number, and finally to scan the pet again after implantation to ensure the microchip’s proper placement and to make sure it did not back out with the needle.
- Without a microchip scanner, an implanter is not following proper microchipping protocol – and their microchip provider should encourage and support these best practices. How can you “Google” a microchip without a microchip scanner to read it?

AKC Reunite ProScan 700 and QuickScan 650 universal microchip scanners read 134.2, 128 and 125 kHz microchips to aid in the speedy identification of all microchipped pets.

What do you know about the provider?

- Who backs the microchips you purchase?
- Can they be returned after purchase?
- Does the provider track where its microchips are sold?
- Does the provider have a reliable 24/7 recovery service associated with microchip to enroll the pet’s information?
- Does the provider offer a reliable phone number that will support your microchipping product purchase AND assist in the reunion of the pet when found – or is everything done online with only nameless email contact form?
- What is the enrollment fee structure?
- Does the recovery service provider participate in the American Animal Hospital Association’s www.petmicrochiplookup.org program?

AKC Reunite tracks where every microchip is sold and our 24/7 pet recovery experts are a phone call or email away to help reunite lost pets with their owners.

Every microchip purchaser is assigned a dedicated sales representative to help with an initial microchipping program consultation and your ongoing program needs.

AKC Reunite charges the pet owner no annual fees to update a pet’s enrollment or speak with a pet recovery expert - and is a founding participant of petmicrochiplookup.org.

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