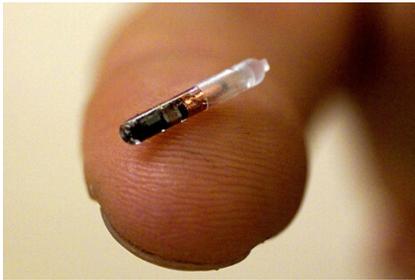


There are many things to consider when choosing an identification method for your pets. We hope you find the following information helpful in choosing what's right for your family.

Microchips

Microchips are an implantable identification device that is widely used across the world. The chips are around the same size as a grain of rice, and are scanned using a specialized scanning device that almost all clinics, rescues and animal control officers have.



If your pet is found they will look up the number and contact you directly, or have the microchip company to contact you.

The number is registered to you and you can add or change your contact information as it changes in the registry. Microchips can be implanted without sedation.

Another benefit to a microchip is that the number will not fade over time like some tattoos.

Tattoos

Tattoos are always done under anesthetic. They are usually placed in the ear and consist of a combination of letters and numbers that identifies which rescue or clinic performed the tattoo, as well as your pet.

Tattoos are a great idea for outdoor cats as they are visible for a slight distance. They also don't require any special equipment to read.

In the even your pet was found, the shelter or animal control officer would match the tattoo to the clinic and have them either provide contact info, or have the clinic contact you directly to let you know your pet has been found.

Collar tags

Another option is to simply have an identification tag attached to your pets collar. This is a wonderful option when used in addition to either a tattoo or microchip, but is not recommended as the only source of identification. If the pets collar breaks or falls off, so does the tag, so your pet is left with nothing to identify them if they are found.