



FACTSHEET

Microchipping your cat

What is microchipping?

A microchip is a permanent identification record for your pet. The microchip is the size of a grain of rice and contains a bar code which, when scanned, tells us who your cat is and who owns the cat. All this information is kept on a confidential companion animal register that can only be accessed by authorised users. The chip is placed under the skin at the back of the animal's neck. Microchipping is not a painful procedure and your cat can be microchipped when awake.

A microchip is not a tracking device!

Why does your cat need a microchip?

There are a number of reasons why you should have your pet microchipped: the first is it's the law. Any cat born after 1999 must have a microchip. It is also illegal to sell or give away a cat without a microchip. The council will enforce fines if they find out your cat doesn't have a microchip. It is also very important for your cat to be microchipped in case they get lost. If someone finds your cat they can take them to the vet, local pound or animal welfare agency and get them scanned to find the owner. If the cat isn't microchipped the owner cannot be contacted. This is bad news for your cat as they might be euthanased. Hundreds of cats are euthanased yearly because the owner can't be found because they haven't kept their contact details up to date or haven't microchipped the cat.

What do I need to do after my cat is microchipped?

When you get your cat microchipped, you will be asked to sign a form with all your contact details on it. A copy of this will be given to you, a copy will be sent in to the council and your vet will keep a copy. The council will enter all your details on the animal register and send you a letter to ask you to register your cat. You must then go into the council to complete the lifetime registration of your cat. If your cat is desexed you will get a big discount. Always check all your contact details are correct and update them immediately if they change. You don't want your cat to die because the registry couldn't find you! Lastly your cat will need a collar and name tag. Even if your cat is an indoors cat, it is a good idea to have a tag with your cat's details just in case they escape. Remember, even if your cat is microchipped, the chip cannot be seen. A collar and tag lets everyone know the cat is owned.

MICROCHIPPING CAN SAVE YOUR CAT'S LIFE!