Animal shelters and veterinarians have an essential part to play in helping microchips save cats' lives. Scanning cats for microchips when they enter shelters, are brought to a veterinary clinic, or are found outdoors can save their lives.

What is a Microchip?



Tiny technology, smaller than a grain of rice, that is implanted just under the animal's skin between the shoulder blades. It's a permanent ID with a unique number that corresponds with contact information in a microchip registry.

What is a Scanner?

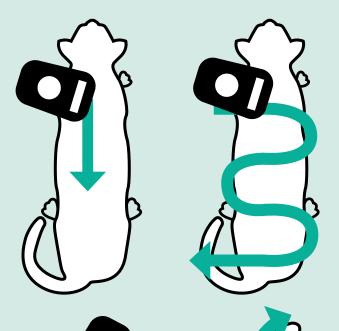


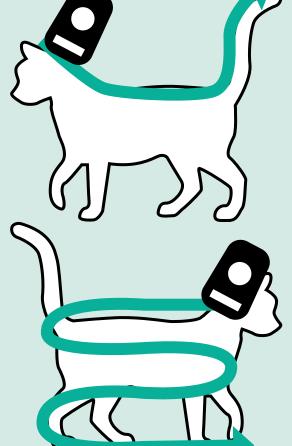
A device that detects microchips using one of three low radio frequencies (125kHz, 128 kHz, and 134.2 kHz). There are different types of scanners, but only universal scanners detect all three microchip frequencies.



Scan for a microchip immediately







- Position the scanner parallel to the cat, less than one inch away.
- Begin between the shoulder blades, where microchips are implanted.
- Scan thoroughly, in an "s" shaped pattern.
- Go slow, spending 10-20 seconds scanning each cat.
- Scan before each move, disposition, or procedure—including euthanasia—to ensure you have the right cat.
- Make sure you have a universal scanner that will pick up all microchip frequencies. Also, test to ensure the battery is charged and the scanner is working.
- When looking up a microchip, check several microchip company databases and American Animal Hospital Association's Universal Pet Microchip Lookup.