A BREEDER’S GUIDE TO COMPULSORY MICROCHIPPING FOR DOGS

Includes information on:
The Microchipping Of Dogs Regulations - How it will affect you and your puppies
Registration of your litters • New ‘Find A Petlog Implanter’ service
Why you should always choose a microchip associated with Petlog • Training as an Implanter • FAQs
How the Kennel Club will be supporting breeders and new puppy owners
INTRODUCTION

Microchipping will be compulsory in England, Scotland and Wales from 6 April 2016. All dogs must be microchipped by 6 April 2016 and going forward all puppies must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks old. Petlog and the Kennel Club have been listening to your feedback and working with our suppliers to ensure that in the run up to 2016 we offer a robust, experienced database serving dog owners across the UK.

Petlog is managed by the Kennel Club and is proud to be the largest independent database in the UK, working with the leading microchip suppliers and supporting over 9 million pet owners. We are also looking at supporting breeders and evaluating how we can improve the service we currently deliver and how to develop our services going forward. We have been working with the English, Scottish and Welsh Government throughout this process and Petlog is fully compliant with the new government regulations to come in force in 2016.
REGULATIONS

THE SITUATION WITH REGARDS TO COMPULSORY MICROCHIPPING ACROSS THE UK IS AS FOLLOWS:

- In England, Wales and Scotland all dogs must be microchipped by the 6th April 2016. From 6th April 2016 all puppies must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks old and the keepers’ details registered on a government approved database.
- In Northern Ireland, compulsory microchipping became a requirement for a dog licence (also compulsory) from 9th April 2012 [www.nidirect.gov.uk/dog-licensing-and-microchipping](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/dog-licensing-and-microchipping)
- For more information on the new law please visit:

HOW THESE NEW GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AFFECT DOG BREEDERS

- All puppies must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks old unless one of two exemptions apply (only one exemption applies in Scotland).
- It will be illegal for breeders to sell a puppy that is not microchipped and registered on a compliant database that meets the legal requirements, such as Petlog.
- The breeder must always be the first recorded keeper of the puppies on the microchip database.
- The breeder must provide transfer of keepership documents to the puppy buyer to ensure the new owner can update their details in order to comply with the law.
- If you are implanting your puppies yourself and are already trained, you don’t have to do anything differently. If you wish to train to implant microchips after April 2016, you must be trained by a government approved course eg. LANTRA.

WHAT DETAILS WILL BE RECORDED ON THE DATABASE, FROM 2016, LINKED TO THE MICROCHIP?

- The breeder’s licence number (if applicable) and the name of the local authority by which they are licensed.
- The name given to the dog by the breeder.
- The breed of the dog, or a description if it is a crossbreed.
- The sex of the dog.
- The colour(s) of the dog e.g. blue, brindle and white.
- The most accurate estimate of the dog’s date of birth which the keeper can give. If the keeper is the breeder then the exact date of birth should be known.
- The full name and address of the keeper (including the full postcode).
- The contact telephone number(s) of the keeper.
- The name given to the dog by the keeper if different to those already recorded.
- The unique microchip number. (NB: This may be found on the registration certificate issued by the database operator. If this has been lost, someone at your veterinary practice, dog rescue centre or a local authority dog warden should be able to scan the dog and advise the number to help notification of change of keepership or keepers’ details).
- Email address (Wales and Scotland only).
WHY CHOOSE PETLOG AS YOUR MICROCHIP DATABASE OF CHOICE?

To give your puppies the best start in life choose a Petlog microchip to gain the full breadth of benefits that Petlog and the Kennel Club can provide. Not only providing long term support, but quality service standards and benefits associated with your Kennel Club registration.

Petlog is here 24/7 with a UK based missing pet service. Supporting authorised agents such as vets, animal wardens, police and welfare organisations who most commonly find and reunite lost pets.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

• Petlog is the UK’s largest database for microchipped pets and is managed by the Kennel Club
• Added Kennel Club registration benefits through the use of chips associated with Petlog
• Petlog is fully compliant with the new regulations
• Petlog has over 20 years of experience
• Over 9 million pet owners trust Petlog to hold their information securely
• Petlog works with 12 leading microchip suppliers
• Petlog has ISO 9001 and 27001 certification
• Founding member of the European Pet Network, providing support across Europe

CHOOSE ONE OF THESE MICROCHIP SUPPLIERS OR USE OUR PETLOG FIND A PETLOG IMPLANTER SERVICE TO MAKE SURE YOUR PUPPIES ARE RECORDED ON THE PETLOG DATABASE - WWW.FINDAPETLOGIMPLANTER.ORG.UK
NEW! THE KENNEL CLUB’S FIND A PETLOG IMPLANTER SERVICE

This new service will enable dog owners and breeders to find the nearest implanter of Petlog associated microchips by simply entering your postcode and searching within a radius.

Search their local Petlog microchip implanter at www.findapetlogimplanter.org.uk.

JOINING ‘FIND A PETLOG IMPLANTER’

If you implant your own Petlog associated microchips and want the general public to be able to find you as an implanter you can sign up to be part of the Find a Petlog Implanter service.

Join now at https://findanimplanter.petlog.org.uk/

BENEFITS OF BEING PART OF THE KENNEL CLUB FIND A PETLOG IMPLANTER SERVICE

- Listed on the Kennel Club and Petlog websites, which receive hundreds and thousands of visits per month
- The Kennel Club will be signposting dog owners to the service ahead of compulsory microchipping
- New customers in your local area will be directed to you
- Promotion of the service to thousands of breeders every month who have recently bred puppies

IMPLANTER TRAINING

Anyone wishing to implant microchips in dogs in England may only do so if they are:

- A veterinarian, student veterinarian or veterinary nurse acting under the direction of a veterinarian
- Someone who has been trained and assessed as competent under a training course approved by the Secretary of State
- Someone who has had training including practical experience of implanting microchips prior to the new law coming into force
KENNEL CLUB REGISTRATION

The Kennel Club understands the responsibilities of breeders and have been working across our services to find solutions to help support you and new owners to comply with these new regulations.

From April 2016, the Kennel Club and Petlog will be introducing FREE microchip record changes for Kennel Club Registered Puppies. This benefit will be available to breeders who fulfil the following criteria:

- Register litters online
- Puppies have been implanted with a microchip that has been recorded on the Petlog database

HOW WILL IT WORK FROM APRIL 2016?

Once the owner changes the Kennel Club registered ownership, they will be given the opportunity to complete the requirement to transfer keepership on the Petlog database FREE OF CHARGE – this will also include Petlog Premium reunification services for the life of their new puppy.

We hope this graphic shows clearly the journey you as a breeder will have to go on from April 6th when having a litter of puppies.

Breeder registers litter online

Find a local Petlog implanter for additional benefits for your puppy buyers

Match KC registration and Petlog microchip records online

Microchip puppies before 8 weeks

Breeder sells puppy including puppy pack with KC Registration and Petlog record paperwork

New puppy owner changes Kennel Club registered ownership of the puppy to redeem FREE Petlog Premium, saving £16.

The Breeder and New Owner are now Kennel Club Registered and compliant with new government regulations.
EXCLUSIVE ONLINE OFFER NOW AVAILABLE FOR BREEDERS

The Kennel Club is piloting changes to your MyKC account and has launched an exclusive breeder offer ahead of the new compulsory microchipping legislation coming in from April 2016.

For new litter applications in your MyKC account, you will be able to ‘match’ up the puppy’s Kennel Club registration with the Petlog microchip record. If you plan to keep a puppy from your litter, you will be able to receive a FREE Petlog Premium upgrade simply by matching the records and stating your intention to keep the puppy.

FAQS ABOUT THIS OFFER

How do I match my microchipped puppy to my Kennel Club registered litter?
You will be able to record the microchip number as usual when you register your litter online and also add the puppy’s unique Petlog ID which will ‘match’ the record. Or if your puppies are not microchipped at the time of litter application then you can match them at a later date in the ‘My Dogs’ section of your MyKC account.

Who is eligible to receive this offer?
This offer is for all breeders who have registered their litter online and have chosen to use a microchip associated with the Petlog database.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Change and new processes always creates questions, here are a few FAQs that may help you.

IS MICROCHIPPING SAFE FOR SMALL BREEDS?

Mini microchips are available for small breeds. There are mini microchips available (the same standard and performance of the existing chip) with a smaller needle for implantation. Use Petlog's 'Find a Petlog Implanter’ www.petlog.org.uk/findanimplanter to find a local implanter and speak to the implanter about your options.

IF I AM TRANSFERRING A DOG TO A NEW KEEPER, CAN I UPDATE THE NEW KEEPER’S DETAILS MYSELF?

Breeders can include the new keeper’s details on the microchip if they wish provided they (as the breeder) are listed as the first keeper - though if they do not, then it is the new keeper’s responsibility to update the details stored on the database. In this instance the breeder/previous keeper must also provide microchipping documents to the new keeper to ensure the new keeper can update their details in order to comply with the law.

WHAT ARE TWO EXEMPTIONS TO THE MICROCHIPPING REGULATIONS?

The first exemption is where a veterinarian has certified the dog as a working dog and docked its tail in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act 2006. In such cases the time limit for the dog to be microchipped and details recorded with a database is extended to 3 months. The dog can be passed on to a new keeper once it has been microchipped. This exemption is applicable in England and Wales only.

The second exemption is where a veterinarian certifies that a dog should not be microchipped because it could adversely affect its health. In such cases a vet would have to certify that this was the case and state when the exemption expired. The dog would then need to be microchipped on the expiry of that time limited certificate unless a veterinarian issued a further exemption certificate because of ongoing concerns with the dog’s health. In this case the decision to exempt a dog from being microchipped would be made by the veterinary surgeon. In such a case a breeder may pass the puppy on with a copy of the veterinary exemption certificate and any time limit for microchipping though it would be for the puppy buyer to decide whether to take the dog given this information.

There are also more questions answered here:
www.petlog.org.uk/breeders/compulsory-microchipping-faqs
WHAT HAPPENS IF I TRANSFER KEEPERSHIP OF MY DOG AND THE NEW KEEPER DOES NOT UPDATE THE MICROCHIP DATABASE WITH THEIR DETAILS AND THE DOG STRAYS OR IS INVOLVED IN A DOG BITE INCIDENT?

As soon as the dog is transferred to a new keeper they become liable for that dog. The new keeper should ensure the contact details on the microchip database are up to date when they acquire the puppy. The new keeper’s details can be updated either by the previous keeper/breeder, or the new keeper.

If the new keeper is to do this it is advisable the previous keeper should give proof of microchipping and confirmation of details recorded in their name to the new keeper, as well as keep a copy for themselves. It is recommended this be either a copy of the confirmation from the database of details recorded or a copy of a valid exemption certificate. This will help the new keeper to record their details in relation to the dog.

Once database records are updated with the new keeper’s details it will also ensure the previous keeper cannot be held liable for any problems the dog may cause under the new keepership.

AT WHAT AGE SHOULD THE PUPPY BE MICROCHIPPED?

There is no minimum age specified in the regulations. However it is advised that microchipping does not take place before the puppy is 6 weeks old, and it is a requirement that the puppy is microchipped and recorded on a database that is compliant with the new regulations, such as Petlog, by the time it is 8 weeks old. Therefore between 6 weeks and 8 weeks is the optimum time to get the puppy microchipped, with 8 weeks being the legal maximum (unless an exemption applies).

IS THERE A FINE/PENALTY IF I DON’T GET MY DOG/PUPPIES MICROCHIPPED?

Once the new rules come into effect, if a dog without a microchip comes to the attention of the authorities, its keeper may be served with a notice requiring the dog to be microchipped, and may face criminal prosecution and a £500 fine if they do not comply with the notice. If this notice is ignored then a fine of up to £500 can be issued or an enforcer can seize the dog and microchip it at the keeper’s expense.

In addition, if the breeder or subsequent keepers of the dog do NOT update the dog’s details on a database that is compliant with the regulations, then a notice may be served requiring the keeper to microchip the dog within 21 days of the served notice.

CAN I RECORD THE NEW OWNER AS THE FIRST KEEPER OF A PUPPY INSTEAD OF MYSELF AS THE BREEDER?

No - The breeder will be considered the first keeper of their litter of puppies and it will be their legal responsibility to get their puppies microchipped and recorded on a database compliant with the new regulations, such as Petlog. **The breeder may not record the new owner as the first keeper of a puppy instead of themselves and it will be an offence if they are not listed as the first keeper of the puppies on a microchipping database compliant with the regulations, such as Petlog.**

There are also more questions answered here: [www.petlog.org.uk/breeders/compulsory-microchipping-faqs](http://www.petlog.org.uk/breeders/compulsory-microchipping-faqs)
THE UK'S LARGEST LOST AND FOUND DATABASE FOR MICROCHIPPED PETS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs