



## **The American Mini Pig Association Microchip Standard Placement Guidelines**

Microchips have become the leading form of permanent identification for pets. The American Mini Pig Association recommends microchips for all pet pigs. Registering the microchip with current contact information will help to protect the pig in case of emergency, disaster, theft, loss, or the pig is taken to a shelter. The standard placement of the microchip in a pet pig is subcutaneously at the base of the left ear on the scutiform cartilage. Microchip placement between the shoulder blades in pigs is not recommended due to the difference in skin from dogs. The pig's skin does not "tent" the same as a dog's skin would for proper placement. In addition, chip readability is compromised in areas of increased fat deposits such as the shoulder area.

The American Mini Pig Association is dedicated to reuniting lost pets with their families. Microchip information will be stored in AMPA's nationwide database of Registered Members. In addition, lost pets will be networked on the AMPA website, Facebook page and other social media outlets.

Scanning a mini pig for a microchip is of equal importance as correct chip placement.. The AMPA recommends placement of microchips behind the left ear. However, many pigs may be chipped in other areas. When scanning a mini pig, the scan area should include the region behind both ears, the length of the neck, around the shoulders, as well as a thorough check for microchips that have migrated away from the implant site.

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