



## MICROCHIPPING FAQs

Q: Why Microchip?

A: Microchips are about the size of a grain of rice and can hold electronic data, such as identifying information about a horse. Microchipping provides a reliable way to verify a horse's identity, which can contribute to the well-being of a horse and support consumer confidence during horse sales. Microchipping is a standard of the FEI, the international equestrian sport governing body.

Q: Where can I find the rule for microchipping?

A: The microchip rule is HU101, JP100, EQ103.

Q: When will my horse's microchip be scanned?

A: Horses are subject to scanning at any time, including, but not limited to: at the time of a measurement, during a drug test, or when showing in a USEF-licensed and/or USHJA-sanctioned championship event.

Q: What information does USEF read off the microchip?

A: The only information contained on the microchip is the chip number. This number is tied to the information you provide to USEF on the USEF Microchip Reporting Form.

Q: How will competition secretaries know if a horse has been microchipped?

A: The microchip number will be added to a horse's USEF/USHJA certificate and verification, which is information available to competition secretaries.

Q: Should I have another microchip put in my horse if it doesn't have a compliant microchip?

A: Yes. You need to have a 15-digit ISO-compliant 11784/11785 microchip that does NOT start with the pre-fix 900 implanted into your horse. Once a compliant microchip is implanted, you should report both numbers to the USEF.

Q: How do I choose a microchip?

A: Microchips must be ISO 11784/11785 compliant. This microchip has a unique 15-digit number that will be assigned only to your horse. Microchips starting with the prefix 900 cannot be used because these chips could have duplicate numbers.

Example of unacceptable chip:

#900123456789012 should not be used

Example of an acceptable chip:

#977123456789012

Check your chip number before it is implanted.



Q: Who can I contact for more information?

A: For more information about the microchipping requirement, contact USEF Customer Care by phone at 859-258-2472, send an email to [customercare@usef.org](mailto:customercare@usef.org) (please allow up to 24 business hours response time), or log onto [USEquestrian.org](http://USEquestrian.org) and choose online support to live chat with a representative. USEF Customer Care representatives are available M-F 8:30am to 5pm ET.

## The Microchipping Process

The American Association of Equine Practitioners has determined that the implantation of a microchip is a veterinary procedure. The USEF recommends that a licensed veterinarian supervise this procedure.

The following steps will be conducted to microchip your horse:

- Before the microchip is implanted, the horse should be properly identified and checked for an existing microchip with a reader.
- The microchip should be implanted in the nuchal ligament, halfway between the poll and the withers on the left side of the horse.
- After the microchip has been implanted, it should be checked again with a reader to verify that it is still readable.

## How to Report Your Horse's Chip Number to USEF

Once a horse is microchipped, you may report your microchip number to the USEF through any of the following methods:

- **Online** by signing into your My USEF Member Dashboard and updating your horse's record.
- **Fax** to 859-231-6662 or email to [horseservices@usef.org](mailto:horseservices@usef.org) the Microchip Reporting form, which may be used to report multiple horses.
- **Completing the microchip field** on a USEF Horse Recording/ID Application.

Microchip reporting does not replace recording your horse with the USEF or registering your horse with the USHJA. If your horse is not yet recorded with USEF or registered with USHJA, you will need to complete an USEF Horse Recording Form and include the 15 digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 microchip number on the form.

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