



Dog's Name .....

Age/Date of Birth .....

Microchip Number .....

Microchip company contact details .....

Local Police Station contact details .....

Local Dog Warden contact details .....

Description of your dog .....

Please Affix  
Dog's Photograph  
Here



Take Care

In the UK an estimated 50,000 dogs are stolen annually. It is a quick money earner for the unscrupulous. They may want your dog for breeding purposes. They could take your dog and then demand money for its safe return. They will steal your dog and then sell it on. No dog is exempt. They target pedigrees, crossbreeds, young, old, healthy or ill.

## To help protect you and your family from the misery of dog theft

### Do

- Make sure your garden is secure (dogs are regularly taken from their owners gardens).
- Get your dog micro-chipped; it's quick, permanent and usually the dog hardly notices its insertion.
- Make sure your dog wears a collar and ID (The Control of Dogs Order 1992 states that all dogs must wear a collar and an identity tag in a public place. The identity tag must show the name and address of the owner). If the dog is micro-chipped, state this on the dog's ID. Remember dogs are not always routinely scanned by rescue centres, vets or the police
- Consider having your dog's ear tattooed, it's easily visible and an excellent deterrent.
- Make sure you have clear, recent photos of your dog; make notes of any distinguishing features. Tip: think how would you describe your dog to someone who hasn't seen it?
- Act quickly. Most 'found' dogs are taken to a holding pound; this could be up to 150 miles away. If, after seven days the dog remains unclaimed, he/she may be destroyed. It does not matter whether the dog is a pedigree or not.
- Check descriptions of any 'found' dogs matching your dog's description. There have been cases of male dogs being listed as bitches, or the dog's age mistakenly estimated.
- Get your vet to check the microchip at booster time. This will ensure that the microchip is still working.
- Keep your contact details up to date with the micro-chipping company. Many dogs fail to be reunited with their owners due to incorrect contact information.

- Fill in this form and keep it in a handy place should the unthinkable ever happen.

### Don't

- Leave dogs outside shops.
- Leave your dog alone inside a car (even if the car is locked).
- Allow the dog to run free out of sight.
- Let your dog out in the street alone.
- Put your dogs name on his/her tag – thieves will try to take a dog by calling its name.

### If your dog goes missing, Contact:

- The Police, make sure you are provided with a crime number (a crime number means action should be taken whereas an incident number means the crime has only been logged).
- Your local Dog Warden.
- The local pound(s).
- All the vets in your area.
- As many internet sites as you can.
- Your local press.
- Local shops - ask if you can put up posters, etc.
- All your local rescues 'breed specific rescues', dog training classes, etc.
- Inform Springer Rescue for Scotland and the microchip company/tattoo register.

- The local Highways or your Local Authority's Refuse Department (in case of a road traffic accident)
- Visit your Local Authority's (LA) and neighbouring LA's web sites as many who still employ their own dog wardens now list found dogs along with their photographs.
- Ask your local postmen, milkmen, street cleaners, bin men, and taxi drivers if they have seen your dog or if they could keep an eye out for him/her.
- Contact Network Rail who will notify you or tell you if, sadly, your dog is picked up after a being hit by a train: Network Rail 08457 114141 (24 hour service).



### IF YOU HAVE FOUND A DOG.....

Contact all the above!  
Please Remember: Local authorities have the primary responsibility for stray dogs, with the police providing a back-up service. Finders can hand over stray dogs at a police station for temporary safekeeping. If someone loses or finds a dog they should always contact the local authority first. This increases the chances of the animal and owner being quickly reunited.

