

Tracking pet feeding, meds, exercise

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DOG-E-MINDER TRACKS PET

Your dog can't tell you the last time it was fed, but Dog-e-Minder can.

With the press of a button, the device records the time and date when the pet is walked, fed or medicated. It also stores your dog's name and your phone number, letting it double as an ID tag.

The device can be attached to a key chain or collar and has a waterproof casing that the manufacturer says will stand up to swimming and pet play.

Dog-e-Minder is available in four colors (black, blue, pink and red) and can be ordered for \$19.95 plus shipping

at www.dogeminder.com

CLEANING FLUID WILL REMOVE INK

Q: I got ballpoint pen ink on a favorite sweat shirt. How can I remove it? I've heard about using hair spray to remove ink, but I don't know how that works.

A: The old advice of using hair spray to remove ink is a perfect example of why home remedies aren't always the best. Hair spray formulations differ, as does the makeup of fabrics. While the alcohol in hair spray may remove the ink, some hair sprays contain ingredients that can leave their own stain.

The Soap and Detergent Association recommends you use either denatured alcohol or cleaning fluid instead.

Denatured alcohol is available where paint is sold. Cleaning fluid, also called spot remover, is usually available at stores that carry laundry products.

Use one of these two methods:

- Sponge the area around the stain — but not the stain itself — with the alcohol or cleaning fluid. Then place the stain face down on clean white paper towels. Apply the fluid to the back of the stain so the ink bleeds onto the paper towels. Replace the towels frequently until the stain is gone.

- Or, place the stained portion of the fabric over the mouth of a jar or glass. While holding the fabric taut, drip the fluid through the stain so the ink drops into the container.

Next, rinse thoroughly and launder.

