



SPAYING AND NEUTERING

Why do we spay and neuter and what at what age?

Spaying is the surgical procedure where the ovaries and uterus are removed in the female pet. Male pets are neutered by having their testicles surgically removed. We recommend having your pet surgically altered at 6 months of age but these procedures can be done after this time as well.

Why do we recommend having your pet spayed or neutered?

There are over 15 million pets that are killed in the US every year because of overpopulation. Spaying and neutering helps decrease the incidence of unwanted pets and overpopulation. Spaying your pet before the first heat cycle decreases the incidence of mammary tumors later. This procedure also prevents your pet from developing pyometra, a life-threatening condition where the uterus fills with pus and bacteria. These bacteria can get into the bloodstream and make your pet very sick or even kill your pet. Spaying also keeps your pet from having messy heat cycles that could attract unwanted males and unwanted pregnancies.

Neutering helps keep pets home and makes them less aggressive towards other animals. When your pet is neutered it decreases the incidence of fighting and also the likelihood of your pet running off and getting lost, hit by a car, or contracting a contagious disease. Neutering also decreases the incidence of prostatic problems and tumors around the anus in dogs. A male cat that is neutered will not have urine that smells as strong and will be less like to spray to mark his territory.

Your pet's weight should not change because you they have been spayed or neutered. Weight is based on the amount of calories you feed and what the animal uses daily. As your pet ages it tends to use fewer calories. Regular exercise and a good diet are important in keeping your pet in shape.