



BENEFITS OF SPAY & NEUTER

We recommend spaying and neutering your pet at approximately 6 months of age or before they hit puberty.

Ovariohysterectomy, or the typical “spay”: the ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus are removed from a female dog or cat. This makes her unable to reproduce and eliminates her heat cycle and breeding instinct-related behavior.

Orchiectomy, or the typical “neuter”: the testes are removed from a male dog or cat. This makes him unable to reproduce and reduces or eliminates male breeding behaviors.

Spaying and neutering prevent unwanted litters, help protect against some serious health problems, and may reduce many of the behavioral problems associated with the mating instinct.

- Removing a female dog or cat’s ovaries eliminates heat cycles and generally reduces the unwanted behaviors associated with a heat cycle.
- Removing the testes from male dogs and cats reduces the breeding instinct, making them less inclined to roam, “mark” territory, lessens aggressive behavior and diminishes mounting or “humping”.
- Early spaying of female dogs and cats can help protect them from some serious health problems later in life such as uterine infections (pyometra) and breast cancer.
- Neutering your male pet can also lessen its risk of developing prostate disease, such as an enlarged prostate gland, cysts, infection, or abscess. Neutering also lessens the chances of your dog developing a perianal hernia or testicular cancer.

The procedure has no effect on a pet’s intelligence or ability to learn, play, work, or hunt. Some pets tend to be better behaved following surgical removal of their ovaries or testes, making them more desirable companions.

There is still research being done on the benefits of waiting till a later age to alter your pet. Our veterinarians will be happy to discuss options or if you have any of your questions.

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