



Why Should I Neuter or Spay my Pet?

Neutering and spaying your pet is important to ensure they can not contribute to the animal population. Spaying means the removal of the female's ovaries and uterus; and neutering means the removal of the male's testicles. Both operations help to ensure your pet has a longer, happier, and healthier life overall.

Dogs and cats who have not been spayed or neutered are more likely to roam, therefore possibly becoming injured or lost. When females go into heat; they have a bloody discharge which can attract males. Male cats and dogs outdoors may fight over territory and develop infections. Intact animals are also more likely to mark their territory with urine in your household.

HEALTH CONCERNS

Spaying or neutering eliminates or significantly decreases the risk of developing certain health problems; which include:

Female dogs and cats:

- Ovarian tumors and uterine growths
- Pyometra, a potentially fatal uterine infection that requires surgery
- False pregnancies
- Mastitis; a painful infection of the mammary glands
- Mammary tumors and cancer
- Death

Male dogs:

- Testicular tumors and cancer
- Prostate problems
- Perineal hernias
- Adenoma and other skin and glandular growth

Male cats:

- Abscesses

COMMON CONCERNS:

At what age should cats and dogs be spayed or neutered?

The usual age for cats is five to six months as it is best to have them spayed or neutered before they mature.

For puppies, the recommended age changes based on breed and sex and so the veterinarian would be happy to discuss the ideal timing with you during your third booster appointment.

Will neutering or spaying change my pet's personality?

Spaying or neutering does not affect personality or disposition. Your pet will still be the same cat or dog you know and love.

My sister's animal is fixed and it is overweight and lazy.

It does not have to be if you do not let it. Neutering or spaying will affect their metabolism, but we can advise you on steps to take to ensure this does not result in weight gain.