

Benefits of Neutering Your Dog

Your new puppy is approaching six months of age, which is an ideal time to neuter him. Altering at six months of age will help prevent many annoying behavioral problems and reduce his risk of many medical problems as well. Here is a brief list of likely benefits.

- Eliminates annoying sexual behavior such as lifting his leg to “mark” his territory both outdoors and in the house, and mounting legs, furniture, and/or other pets.
- Eliminates roaming in search of females. If allowed to run loose he may fight with other males, be injured, killed by automobiles, or get lost. If confined, he may become hyperactive, aggressive, or vicious.
- Prostate infection and cancer, dangerous and commonly seen problems of older unaltered males, are eliminated, as is testicle cancer.
- Reduces the chance of your dog later biting or being aggressive towards other dogs and humans. Statistics show that most dog bites are inflicted by unaltered males.
- Less roaming and sniffing behavior means less external and internal parasite infestations.

Altering will not change your pet’s personality except to make him a calmer, more devoted pet. The surgery will not cause him to become fat and lazy. Any older, less active pet may experience weight gain. This can be easily controlled by proper diet and exercise.

Dog Neuter FAQs

How long will my dog stay at the veterinary clinic after surgery?

- Neuters typically go home any time between 2:00pm and 5:30pm the day of the surgery.

When do his sutures need to be removed?

- Ten to fourteen days after his procedure we ask that you bring your dog in for suture removal. This is free of charge and no appointment is necessary. This is also a great time for us to look at the incision and get an update on how he is doing after his surgery.

What are my instructions after I take him home?

- The biggest thing we want you to keep in mind is that it is very important to keep your pet calm and on a leash when outside for ten days after his surgery. This is an invasive surgery and to prevent complication this is an important step for his recovery. Things like jumping on couches, beds and running up and down stairs are not recommended.

Also as previously mentioned, 10-14 days after his surgery you will need to bring him in for suture removal.

Are there behavioral changes or weight gain after surgery?

- There has been documented slowing of the metabolism after neuters. It may be necessary to use reduced calorie food or cut back on his current portions after surgery.
- The only behavior changes that are observed after neutering relate to behaviors influenced by male hormones. Playfulness, friendliness, and socialization with humans are not changed. The interest in roaming, aggressive behavior against other male dogs, and marking are greatly reduced in most cases. These are the changes you can look forward to.