

10 REASONS to SPAY & NEUTER

Your female pet will live a longer, healthier life.

Spaying helps prevent uterine infections and breast cancer, which is fatal in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats. Spaying your pet before her first heat offers the best protection from these diseases.

Neutering provides major health benefits for your male.

Besides preventing unwanted litters, neutering your male companions prevents testicular cancer if done before six months of age. Many aggression problems can also be avoided by early neutering.

Your spayed female won't go into heat.

While cycles can vary, female felines usually go into heat four to five days every three weeks during breeding season. In an effort to advertise for mates, they'll yowl and urinate more frequently—sometimes all over the house! Female dogs generally have a bloody discharge for about a week, once every six months, although this can vary as well.

Your male dog won't want to roam away from home.

Male dogs can smell a female in heat from far away and an intact male will do just about anything to find a mate! That includes digging his way under the fence and making like Houdini to escape from the house. And once he's free to roam, he risks injury in traffic and fights with other males.

It's highly cost-effective.

The cost of your pet's spay/neuter surgery is a lot less than the cost of having and caring for a litter. It can also reduce many expensive health problems in the future. The cost of this routine surgery will generally be less than treating prostate disease, or cancer.

Spaying & Neutering does not cause pets to become fat and lazy.

Lack of exercise and overfeeding make pets fat and lazy, not neutering. Your pet will not gain weight if you provide and monitor food intake. Neutering is good for your pet, since sterilized pets tend to live an average of two to three years longer than unsterilized pets.

Your spayed/neutered pet will be much better behaved.

In general, sterilized animals make better pets. They show less aggression and can be more affectionate. Intact pets, on the other hand, are more likely to run away, get into fights with competing animals, and bite.

Spaying & neutering is good for the community.

Stray animals pose a real problem in many parts of the country. They can prey on wildlife, cause car accidents, damage the local fauna and frighten children. Spaying and neutering packs a powerful punch in reducing the number of animals on the streets.

Your pet doesn't need to have a litter for your children to experience the miracle of birth.

Letting your pet produce offspring you have no intention of keeping is not a good lesson for your children—especially when so many unwanted animals end up in shelter. There are tons of books and videos available to teach your children about birth in a more responsible way.

Spaying & neutering helps fight pet overpopulation

Every year, millions of cats and dogs of all ages and breeds are euthanized or suffer as strays. These high number are the result of unplanned litters that could have been prevented by spaying or neutering.

