

Cat Frequently Asked Questions

How old does my cat need to be in order to be spayed or neutered?

Your pet must be four months old (or four pounds) to be altered.

Will my animal become fat and lazy after being altered?

Your animal will not get fat and lazy after being spayed or neutered unless you feed him/her too much. To keep your pet healthy they should get regular exercise.

Will my animal's behavior change after being altered?

Your animal's behavior will not change except that male cats will be less likely to fight, roam and spayed females will no longer go into heat.

Will my cat feel pain during surgery?

Your cat will be under anesthesia during surgery, and will feel no pain. You should keep the animal quiet after surgery while she or he heals. Cats should be kept indoors for the first 24 hours.

How young can a female cat get pregnant?

Cats as young as five months old can become pregnant. For many reasons, it is important to spay or neuter BEFORE the first litter is born - before six months.

I want to have my cat declawed, can you help me?

We will only declaw altered animals or in conjunction with a spay/neuter procedure. We will NOT declaw unaltered animals.

Will neutering my male cat stop him from spraying?

It is best to alter males before they reach five months of age, and before they start "spraying" or "marking." Even if a cat has started spraying, neutering may help. It usually takes about 6 to 8 weeks for the hormones to subside after the neutering. Neutering helps prevent spraying, roaming and aggressive behavior.

How long after my female cat has had kittens can I get her spayed?

Mother cats can become pregnant while nursing. It is important to keep a nursing mother away from other adult cats of the opposite sex. One can spay a mother as soon as the kittens are weaned, (5 to 6 weeks for kittens) and because of the risk of pregnancy this should be done.

Is it better to have one litter before spaying a female cat?

Medical evidence indicates just the opposite. In fact, the evidence shows that females spayed before their first heat are typically healthier.

How often does a female cat come in heat?

A female cat goes into heat 2 times a year or after she has a litter of kittens.

What are the risks?

Like any surgical procedure, sterilization is associated with some anesthetic and surgical risk, but the overall incidence of complications is very low.

What are the benefits?

- Benefits of Spaying (females):
 - No heat cycles, therefore males will not be attracted
 - Less desire to roam
 - Risk of mammary gland tumors, ovarian and/or uterine cancer is reduced or eliminated, especially if done before the first heat cycle
 - Reduces number of unwanted cats/kittens
 - Helps cats live longer, healthier lives

- Benefits of Neutering (males):
 - Reduces or eliminates risk of spraying and marking
 - Less desire to roam, therefore less likely to be injured in fights or auto accidents
 - Risk of testicular cancer is eliminated, and decreases incidence of prostate disease
 - Reduces number of unwanted cats/kittens
 - Decreases aggressive behavior