

Neuter Information

We at Catoosa Small Animal Hospital want to keep you as informed as possible about various issues we have common questions about. The following questions are frequently asked about the issue of neutering male dogs or cats.

Should I neuter my pet?

Absolutely! There is no reason not to neuter your dog or cat. Neutering at a young age reduces or eliminates many health and behavioral problems in dogs and cats. In fact, we have almost no old tom cats that come into our clinic. They have all wandered off from their owners chasing the girls – never to be seen again!

When should I neuter my pet?

Typically we would recommend neutering around 5 – 6 months of age – before a lot of the “male” behaviors start. We can even neuter them earlier if we have are doing some other surgical procedure that requires anesthetic. We could gladly recommend the ideal time for you to have your pet neutered.

Can my pet be active after surgery?

Typically, dogs and cats that are neutered will slow down for a day or so after surgery on their own. Exercise or moving around will not cause their sutures to come out so we typically don't recommend strict confinement post surgically.

Can I feed or water my pet after I pick them up and get them home?

Most animals – especially dogs – are a little nauseous after surgery. Therefore, we usually recommend only water the evening after surgery and then food the next day. We don't want them to throw up on your new carpet or furniture!

Will my pet have stitches?

We typically place several skin sutures that need to be removed in 10 days. There are also a couple of suture layers under the skin that will dissolve on their own. It is important to check the incision daily for any swelling, infection, or missing sutures. Occasionally, we will put subcutaneous sutures that will dissolve and not need to be removed in pets that are hard for the owners to handle and bring back in – big dogs, barn cats, etc.

What happens when you neuter my pet?

A neuter requires a general anesthetic and strict surgical sterility. Unlike a vasectomy in humans we completely remove the testicles.

What does it cost to neuter my pet?

Dogs		Cats	
0 – 30#	\$95	Any size	\$55
30 – 60#	\$110		
60 – 90#	\$125		
90 – 120#	\$140		
120# & over	\$155		

Additional fees on top of the basic cost if needed:

Extra pain medication **which we highly recommend** to last 4 days – depending on size - \$20 - \$35

Pre-operative blood work to check from potential problems before surgery - \$25 - \$35

We would gladly give you an exact quote and explain any of these optional things if you desire.

Thank you – The Doctors and Staff of Catoosa Small Animal Hospital (266-4090).