



ALL CARE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Neutering Your Cat

Female Cats (Spaying)

Cats are capable of breeding up to 6 times per year. With up to 8 kittens per litter, this can place a great demand on the cat's wellbeing. It also means that there are huge numbers of kittens looking for homes. When you consider that these kittens can start reproducing from 5 months old, it is easy to see how quickly the numbers get out of hand. Therefore, to avoid such problems occurring; it is advised to neuter ("spay") your female cat at 5 months of age. It is a short operation, the cat is usually staying with us for the day only and the stitches are removed 10 days later. It will not alter your cat in anyway, except eliminate unwanted kittens and reduce the likelihood of your cat contracting infections from any male cat. This operation can be performed at any age, but if done at 5 months unwanted pregnancies and the associated risks will not occur.



Male Cats (Castration)

There seems to be some reluctance amongst cat owners (especially male owners!) to have this operation performed. **UNLESS YOU WANT TO USE YOUR TOM CAT FOR PEDIGREE BREEDING WE ADVISE TO HAVE HIM NEUTERED.**

There are good reasons for this:



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1. **Unwanted pregnancies** – a male cat can "father" over 100 kittens/year, not many will find good homes
2. **Wandering** – male cats will wander far from home in search of a "partner", therefore increasing the risk of road accidents and loss of your pet.
3. **Cat fights** – usually at night, leading to abscesses and infection. Many cat viruses are spread through cat bites, some of these are life threatening.
4. **Spraying** – tom cats will mark their "territory" by spraying foul smelling urine around it. This smell is difficult to eliminate. If they are neutered when young (usually at 5 months) this rarely happens.

NEUTERING YOUR MALE CAT WILL MAKE HIM LESS AGGRESSIVE AND MORE LIKELY TO STAY NEAR HIS "HOME", SO THAT THEY BECOME BETTER "PETS". IT WILL ALSO CONSIDERABLE REDUCE THE NUMBER OF UNWANTED KITTENS IN YOUR AREA.