

Top 10 Reasons To Spay or Neuter Your Pet



1. Your female dog or cat will live a longer and healthier life once spayed. Spaying is the surgical removal of the ovaries and uterus under general anesthesia. Spaying a female dog or cat helps prevent pyometra (a pus filled uterus) and breast cancer. Pyometra can be life threatening and generally requires surgical removal of the uterus and ovaries while being hospitalized receiving intravenous fluids and antibiotics. Breast cancer can be fatal in about 50% of female dogs and in about 90% of female cats. The best protection from these diseases is spaying your pet before its first heat cycle.
2. Neutering is the surgical removal of the testicles under general anesthesia. Neutering your male dog before six months of age prevents testicular cancer and prevents prostatic hyperplasia which occurs in older intact male dogs.
3. Your spayed female won't go into heat. Unspayed female cats usually go into heat for 4-5 days every 3 weeks during their breeding season. They will yowl and urinate more frequently (sometimes all over the house), trying to attract a mate. Unspayed female dogs generally have a bloody discharge or "period" for about a week during their breeding cycle and can conceive for another week or so.
4. A neutered male dog won't need to roam away from home looking for a mate. Intact male dogs tend to escape from their homes in search of females, and are at higher risk of getting into fights with other males, or hit by cars.
5. Neutered cats and dogs focus their attention on their human families. Intact male dogs and cats may mark their territory by spraying strong-smelling urine all over the house. Intact male dogs may also embarrass you by mounting the furniture and human legs when stimulated. Neutered dogs protect their homes and family just as well as an unneutered dog, however; many aggression problems can be avoided by early neutering.
6. Spaying or neutering your dog or cat will NOT make it fat. Lack of exercise and overfeeding cause your pet to pack on the extra pounds. Your pet will remain fit and trim as long as you continue to provide exercise and monitor its food intake.
7. Spaying or neutering your pet is highly cost effective. The cost of your pet's surgery is much less than the cost of having and caring for a litter, the cost of medical treatment post injuries from fights and trauma, as well as the cost of professional carpet cleaning.
8. Spaying and neutering is good for the community. Stray animals pose a real problem because they can prey on wild life, cause car accidents, and scare children.
9. Your pet doesn't need to have a litter of puppies or kittens for your children to witness the miracle of birth. Letting your pet produce offspring you have no intention of keeping teaches your children irresponsibility. Many animals are euthanized for lack of a home. There are countless books and videos available to teach your children about birth in a responsible manner.
10. Spaying and neutering helps fight pet overpopulation. Millions of dogs and cats of all ages and breeds are humanely euthanized each year or suffer as strays. These high numbers are the result of unwanted and unplanned litters that could have been prevented through spaying and neutering.