



# Spay & Neuter

## ? Did you know.....

- Spaying prevents a uterine infection known as pyometra, which can be life threatening. One in four intact female dogs by ten years of age will develop pyometra. Mortality rate due to pyometra is 15-20%, and it is completely prevented by spaying.
- Neutering eliminates testicular cancer and decreases the incidence of prostate disease.

## Spaying

Although it's commonly referred to as a spay, this surgery is actually a complete ovariectomy, or the removal of both ovaries and the uterus. Spayed dogs are at much lower risk for ovarian cancers and cysts, mammary gland tumors, and uterine infections.

## Neutering

Neutering is the removal of both testicles. It sounds worse than it is—and no, he won't miss them! Neutered males are less susceptible to prostate disease and testicular cancer. It also eliminates unnecessary marking behaviors. They're less likely to act aggressive or to wander away from home, so neuter your pet before his heart leads him into the path of an oncoming car.

## What to expect?

- Bring your pet in on an empty stomach
- You will have the option to run pre-anesthetic bloodwork (required if your pet is over 7 years old) to ensure the safety of your pet while under anesthesia
- We will contact you with an update on your pet following their surgery
- Spays and neuters typically are ready to go home same day between 3 and 5

Call us at 501-679-7138 to set up your pet's surgery!

## Common Myths

### ~~My pet will gain weight.~~

The aging process probably affects weight gain more than anything—as many of us are painfully aware from our human experience. It's true that lowered hormone levels may decrease your pet's activity. The key to this problem is simple—give your pet less food and more exercise.

### ~~Females need to complete a heat cycle before being spayed.~~

There is no medical reason for this old wives' tale. In fact, the fewer heat cycles your pet goes through before getting spayed, the better her protection against mammary cancer.

### ~~My pet may lose his or her personality or "spunk" after being neutered.~~

Don't worry! If he or she loses anything, it'll be the potential for bad behavior..