

KITTEN CARE 101: SPAYING & NEUTERING



Spay/Neuter

Spaying or neutering your kitten has health benefits, in addition to helping with pet overpopulation. Spaying your female kitten before her first heat offers the best protection from uterine infections and breast tumors. Most female cats will go into heat by 6 months of age, so it's a good idea to spay them at around 5 months. Neutering your male pet at approximately 6 months helps prevent testicular cancer and certain prostate problems.

Why should I have my cat spayed/neutered?

Spaying is the complete removal of the uterus and ovaries and can be done once she is 5 to 6 months

- If I don't spay my cat: heat periods occur every two to three weeks, behavior can be annoying, neighborhood male cats fight or mark their territory outside your house
- If I do spay my cat: prevents unplanned litters of kittens, decreases the risk she will develop breast cancer or a uterine infection called pyometra significantly, spaying before any heat cycles will eliminate chances of developing breast cancer

Neutering is the complete removal of both testicles and can be done as early as 5 to 6 months

- If I don't neuter my cat: possessive of territory and mark it with their urine to ward off other cats, tomcat's urine develops a very strong odor that will be almost impossible to remove from your house, constantly try to enlarge their territory by continually fighting
- If I do neuter my cat: prevents tomcat behavior, no unplanned litters of kittens, less aggression and no significant personality change as they mature

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Owning a pet can be a rewarding experience, but it is also a responsibility that lasts the lifetime of the animal. Got questions or want to schedule an appointment? Give us a call at (919) 380-1157. We look forward to watching your kitten grow into a happy, healthy cat!



Prevention is your best bet for a healthy pet and peace of mind.

Talk to a member of our staff or your Lake Pine veterinarian about
vaccinating your best friend today!

Not sure if your pet's shots are current? Give us a call at (919) 380-1157.