



Spaying Your Pet

What does “spay” mean?

The technical term is an ovariohysterectomy (OHE). It is the surgical removal of the ovaries and the uterus while under anesthesia.

Why should I spay my dog or cat?

Health benefits

- Reduces the risk of three different types of cancer: mammary, uterine, and ovarian
- Reduces the risk of a uterine infection called pyometra that can be fatal
- No unwanted litters
- Stops hereditary issues from being passed on such as umbilical hernia or generalized demodex mange

Behavior benefits

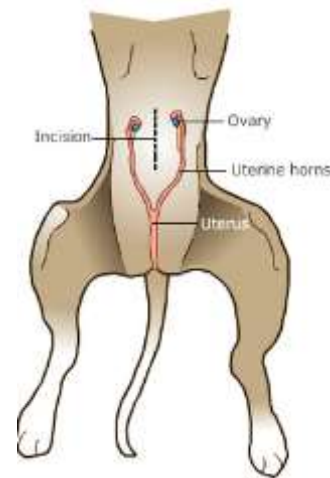
- Decreases false pregnancies in dogs
- Decreases vocalization in cats
- Decreases protective aggression

What are some of the risks of spaying?

Every surgery has risks associated with anesthesia. Healthy animals are much less likely to have problems. Spaying your pet may possibly increase the risk of obesity and possibly increase urinary incontinence.

When should I spay my pet?

Young animals tend to recover quicker and with more ease. Some females can come into heat at a very young age if exposed to intact males. Your pet should be spayed at 4-6 months of age, and she should weigh at least two pounds. Older and overweight females are at a higher risk for complications during surgery.



An unspayed female cat, her mate, and all of their offspring producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can total :

