

Should I neuter my cat?

Neutering your kitten has a lot of benefits, both for them and for you.

For male cats

- Neutering reduces their chance of catching feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), an incurable disease similar to HIV in humans which is spread by saliva usually from bite wounds during fights.
- Unneutered cats that are confined can become frustrated and may try to escape.
- Neutering cats reduces their urge to roam and fight so they're less likely to go missing, get hit by cars, or get hurt.

For female cats

- Spaying cats, especially if it's done when they're young, greatly reduces the risk of them getting breast cancer and infection of the womb (called pyometra). Both of these can be fatal.

For you

- It can be hard trying to keep your cat indoors when in season
- Unneutered females often come into season repeatedly, which means they can be almost continuously in heat, attracting local tom cats.
- Unneutered male cats tend to urine-mark their territory, including your house, with a powerful and unpleasant scented urine.
- Thousands of unwanted cats have to be put to sleep every year because there are too many unwanted animals and not enough homes for them. You can help by getting your cat neutered.
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What happens in the surgery?

Your pet will have a short anaesthetic and will have a surgical procedure to remove either their testicles or their uterus and ovaries. They will be home with you the same day, and should be kept indoors initially. They will usually have pain relief medicine to take home, and may need to wear a lampshade collar to prevent them licking their wound.

What age can I neuter my kitten at?

We recommend neutering kittens around 4 months old, before they become sexually mature.