

THE ADVANTAGES OF NEUTERING MALE DOGS & CATS

DOGS

1. Has no effect on the dog's alertness or natural protective instincts.
2. Minimises sexual and territorial aggression.
3. Reduces hyperactivity and the dog becomes more relaxed in its home environment.
4. Lowers the dog's general activity level (advantageous with certain breeds such as Boxers).
5. The dog becomes more affectionate with the owners, children and other pets.
6. Minimises or eliminates bad habits such as jumping over fences, chasing of cars, urinating in the house, etc.
7. Minimises the likelihood of having prostate problems.

CATS

1. Neutered cats become more affectionate and less inclined to wander off their territories.
2. Neutering reduces and even eliminates spraying altogether.
3. Reduces and even eliminates "cat choruses" which are usually caused by unneutered males challenging each other for females "in season" or for territory (i.e. minimises sexual and territorial aggression).

DOGS AND CATS

1. Stops straying when females "in season" are in the neighbourhood and also reduces the possibility of the male getting into fights or being run over by a motor vehicle - which can prove to be costly in terms of veterinary fees.
2. Prevents mating with females "in season" in the neighbourhood.
3. Minimises or eliminates the possibility of the male contracting sexually transmitted diseases.
4. Reduces the possibility of the male developing tumours in the anus.

NOTE

1. Results can be expected to show within six weeks to three months of the operation.
2. A MALE CAN FERTILISE MORE FEMALES IN A YEAR THAN A FEMALE CAN HAVE LITTERS IN HER LIFETIME.

THE ADVANTAGES OF SPAYING BITCHES AND QUEENS

UNWANTED PUPPIES AND KITTENS ARE PREVENTED. DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- thousands of animals are euthanased annually in animal welfare organisations throughout South Africa;
- spaying your female would help to reduce this tragedy;
- the cost in terms of euthanase, burial/incineration and even human stress are enormous.

GIVING PUPPIES AND KITTENS AWAY (E.G. "FREE TO GOOD HOME") CAN HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES:

- recent investigations by the SPCA have revealed that dogs are being obtained under false pretences by "brokers" who then sell them to security companies in other parts of Africa;
- cats and kittens are obtained under false pretences to be used as bait to train dogs for fighting or to train dogs for illegal racing and hunting.

UNSPAYED BITCHES AND QUEENS:

- can become infected with sexually transmitted diseases or pyometra (pus in the womb);
- these conditions cannot always be cured and may lead to your pet having to be euthanased;
- become disobedient, restless and noisy when in season;
- if kept at home, risk being covered;
- cause uncastrated males in the neighbourhood to wander and risk injury due to fighting or as a result of motor vehicle accidents;
- are not always able to give birth naturally, and this incurs high veterinary costs as caesareans may need to be performed and/or other complications may arise;
- many animals die in labour;
- an unspayed female cat will come into season approximately every 3 weeks for about 7 days until she becomes pregnant, which can be as early as 4 months of age.

HOWEVER, THE ADVANTAGES IN OWNING ANY STERILISED ANIMAL:

- avoid pyometra (pus in the womb), as well as other womb and sexually transmitted diseases;
- have a reduced risk of mammary tumours;
- will not wander;
- will not cause upheaval in the neighbourhood;
- have a reduced risk of many costly veterinary bills;
- are healthier;
- although a spayed bitch will have a calmer temperament, this will not affect her protective instincts.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

- One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats in seven years.
- One female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 dogs in six years.