

Castration in Dogs

General Information

Castration is the surgical removal of testicles. Such surgery is performed to eliminate sexual activities and render the dog sterile. Castration usually (but not always) reduces a dog's tendency to roam and fight. The general level of aggression may also be reduced. However, castration is not a replacement for obedience training by the owner.

In older dogs, castration may be necessary because disease of the testicles or prostate gland could develop.

For the small to medium breeds, it is recommended to neuter between 5-8 months of age. For the larger breed dogs, there are new thoughts that there are some health benefits to neuter closer to one year of age. This will be discussed on a case by case basis at your puppy visit.

Surgical Procedure

Your pet will be given a preoperative physical examination to help ensure its safety during anesthesia and surgery. Recovery is generally uneventful, and aftercare is minimal.

Home Care After Surgery

1. *Activity:* Restrict activity to on-leash walking for 7 days.
2. *Incision:* Check the incision at least once daily.
3. *Sutures:* The sutures do not require removal.
4. *E-collar:* Your dog should wear Elizabethan Collar for the first 7-10 day after surgery
5. *Diet:* You can feed regular diet.
6. Your pet should behave normally within one or two days.

Notify the doctor if any of the following occur:

1. Your pet chews or damages the incision.
2. Your pet seems depressed or refuses to eat.
3. The incision is red or swollen or oozes pus or blood.