



Spay/Neuter Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

1. What is the difference between the terms Spay and Neuter?

Spay is the term for ovariectomy, or the removal of portions of the reproductive system of a female dog. Neuter is the term that describes castration, or the removal of the testicles of a male dog.

2. Should I spay or neuter my pet?

One of the biggest reasons we encourage you to spay or neuter your puppy is the decreased risk of mammary cancer and uterine infections in female dogs, and certain cancers in male dogs. In addition to this, there is evidence that aggressive tendencies in males are decreased through neutering.

3. Can my pet get a microchip at this time?

Yes! It's a fact of life that sometimes things don't go as planned, and no matter how many precautions you take, your puppy could escape your yard or home. Placing a microchip while your pet is under anesthesia skips the discomfort of having a microchip placed and increases the likelihood your pet makes it back home to you in the unfortunate case that they go missing.

4. What vaccines are required to have my pet spayed or neutered at Valley West?

Here at Valley West require all puppies and adult dogs to have the DHLPP (Distemper/Parvovirus/Parainfluenza/Hepatitis/Leptospirosis) vaccine, Rabies, and Bordetella.

5. How long does my pet have to stay at the hospital?

Your puppy will be dropped off at the hospital the morning of their surgical procedure between 7:30-8:30 a.m. They will stay until around 3:30 p.m., allowing us to monitor their recovery from anesthesia before sending them home with you.

6. What does the cost of the spay/neuter include?

All puppies will receive a pre-anesthetic exam, pain medications prior to their surgical procedure, general anesthesia, the surgical procedure, surgical monitoring, suture material, and post-operative pain medication.

7. Will my puppy need to wear an E-Collar?

We do require all patients who have been spayed or neutered to go home wearing an e-collar. This is to prevent your puppy from disturbing his/her incision site and prevent secondary infections and post-operative complications. We keep these in stock and are happy to provide you with the correct size to go home.