

NEUTERING YOUR CAT

Female cat (Spaying)

Unless you are going to use your female cat for pedigree breeding we strongly advise to have her neutered. This will stop any unwanted pregnancies.

- Cats are capable of breeding up to **4 times per year** and start reproducing from **5 months old**. With up to **eight kittens per litter** it means that there are huge numbers of kittens looking for homes.
- Therefore to avoid such problems occurring, it is advisable to spay (neuter) your female cat at **5 months of age**.
- It is a short operation, the cat usually stays with us for the day only and the stitches are removed 10 days later.
- It will not alter your cat in anyway, except to eliminate unwanted kittens and reduce the likelihood of your cat contracting infections from any male cat.
- This operation can be performed at any age, but if done at 5 months unwanted pregnancies and the associated risks will not occur.

Male Cat Castration

Unless you are going to use your tomcat for pedigree breeding we strongly advise to have him neutered. There are good reasons for this:

- **Unwanted pregnancies** – a male cat can “father” over 100 kittens a year. Not many will find a good home.
- **Wandering** – male cats will wander far from home in search of a “partner”, therefore increasing the risk of road accidents and the loss of your pet. Your tomcat may go for days on end. Living it rough and often not eating very well.
- **Cat fights** – usually at night, leading to abscesses and infection. A lot of cat viruses are spread through cat bites, some of these viruses are life threatening.
- **Spraying** – tomcats will mark their territory by spraying a very foul smelling urine around it. This smell is extremely difficult to eliminate. If they are neutered early in life this rarely happens!
- There is no negative aspect of getting your male cat neutered.

If you have any questions about getting your cat neutered, please get in touch by phone **(021) 489 3033** or email contact@animalcarehospital.ie