

Dog Neuter Surgery, From Start to Finish

What you need to know about this important procedure for dogs.

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Is it expensive? Many veterinarians offer neuter services as part of a puppy vaccination package. Some offer a spay and neuter day, with reduced fees for those who demonstrate need. Many shelters and humane organizations provide neuter vouchers or other funding to those in need.

When can my dog come home? Most dogs go home the same day. If you need to work and can't stay with your dog when he gets home, ask your veterinarian about an extended stay for observation.

How can I help my dog once he comes home? Keep him quiet and restrict unnecessary activity for at least 1 day following the procedure.

Prevent excessive licking of the incision. Monitor food and water intake according to your veterinarians instructions.

What symptoms should prompt me to call my veterinarian? A reopened incision Abnormal swelling of the incision area (some swelling is normal) Dark red or purple discoloration Bloody or thick discharge from the incision Foul odors from the incision area, which could indicate an infection Continued lethargy, or if your dog doesn't seem to get better after a few days

When can my dog resume normal activity? Most dogs are awake and alert soon after surgery. Some will eat the same day as surgery. Most resume normal activity the next day.

Neuter surgery is an important part of responsible pet ownership, and an investment in your dogs long-term health. Have additional questions? Talk to your veterinarian today.

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