



Spay and Neuter Clinic Policies

1. The Santa Barbara Humane Society recommends scheduling your pet's spay or neuter surgery after they are 4 months of age and finished with their series of puppy or kitten vaccinations.
2. Brachycephalic (i.e. "short nosed") breeds such as Bulldogs, Boston Terriers, Pugs, Persian cats, etc. are at a higher risk of having anesthetic complications. For this reason, we recommend surgery be performed by your full-service veterinarian.
3. It is our goal at the Santa Barbara Humane Society that every pet have a good anesthetic outcome. For that reason, if the veterinarian performing surgery feels your pet may have anesthetic complications due to age, obesity, heart disease, severe skin infection, etc., your pet's surgery may be cancelled or rescheduled.
4. Please bring any dogs with known aggression issues into the clinic with a properly fitted muzzle. Feral cats should be brought into the clinic in a live trap. Our staff will do our best to safely work with all patients regardless of temperament, however if the patient presents an undue risk to itself or our staff, surgery may be cancelled.

Spay and Neuter Pre-Surgical Instructions

- Please do not feed your dog or cat any food (including table scraps, treats, bones, etc.) after midnight the night before surgery
- Water is fine to be given at all times
- Please bring your pet to the clinic between 8:15 – 8:30 AM the morning of your appointment. Pick-up time is from 2:30 – 3:30 that afternoon.
- Please allow enough time for checking-in your pet (normally 10-20 minutes). If you are not the immediate owner of the pet, please make sure you have the owner's complete contact information and know the health history of the pet.
- If your pet needs a microchip or vaccinations, we can administer them on the day of surgery at a reasonable charge.
- Please make sure all cats are in a secure carrier and all dogs are on leashes or in carriers
- Please walk all dogs prior to arrival to give them a chance to relieve themselves

**SANTA BARBARA HUMANE SOCIETY
POST-SURGICAL CARE FOR YOUR DOG**

ACTIVITY

NO running, jumping or rough play and no swimming or bathing for 14 days.

You may take your dog on short leash walks several times a day. Male dogs, especially large breeds, may experience painful swelling of the scrotum if they are too active. If any swelling is noted, we recommended applying a cold compress to the area for 10 minutes up to every 4 hours until the swelling has gone down.

PAIN MEDICATION

Start your pet's pain medication as soon as you get home then follow label directions. The pain medication should be given around the same time each day and only **once** a day. We recommend giving the medication with a meal to prevent stomach upset.

DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDITIONAL PAIN MEDICATION WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF A VETERINARIAN. MANY HUMAN PAIN MEDICATIONS CAN BE TOXIC TO DOGS ESPECIALLY IF COMBINED WITH THESE MEDICATIONS.

FOOD AND WATER

Give a small amount of food (1/4 to 1/2 of their normal amount) and water to your pet when you get home. Do not let your dog gulp large amounts of water or eat too much food.

If your pet vomits, wait 4 hours before feeding again, but offer small amounts of water.

Watch for bloat in large breed dogs.

SURGERY SITE

Check your pet's incision once a day. If it appears red, painful, oozing or swollen, please call the clinic during business hours or the emergency clinic if necessary. No suture removal is needed.

Mild bruising may be present immediately post-op; A cold compress applied to the area for 5-10 minutes 3-4 times a day will help reduce the inflammation. Use a cold gel pack, bag of ice cubes or frozen vegetables (pea or corn work best) wrapped in a towel. Do not get the incision wet and do not persist if your pet finds this too uncomfortable.

YOUR PET HAS BEEN GIVEN A NO-LICK COLLAR (aka E-Collar) TO PREVENT IT FROM LICKING THE SURGICAL SITE. WE RECOMMEND YOUR PET WEAR THE COLLAR AT ALL TIMES FOR THE NEXT 14 DAYS. YOUR PET'S COLLAR MAY NEED TO BE REMOVED FOR EATING/DRINKING. If you pet damages its collar or you need a replacement, additional collars can be purchased from the Clinic for \$5.

Please call the Santa Barbara Humane Society Clinic if you have any questions or concerns about your pet's surgery at:

(805) 964-4777 ext 20, 10am to 12pm or 2pm to 4pm Monday through Friday. The clinic is closed on weekends. Please note there is no veterinary care available outside of clinic hours of operation.

For afterhours care, please call your own veterinarian or:

-Care Emergency Pet Hospital on 301 E Haley Street: (805) 899-2273

OR

-Advanced Veterinary Specialists Emergency Pet Care on 414 E Carrillo Street: (805) 729-4460

During our Pre-Surgical Exam of your pet, we noticed:

Fleas/Flea dirt Tapeworm segments Other: _____

We recommend/require consulting with your own veterinarian regarding this issue.

**SANTA BARBARA HUMANE SOCIETY
POST-SURGICAL CARE FOR YOUR CAT**

ACTIVITY

No jumping or rough play and no bathing for 14 days.

Please keep male cats indoors for at least 3 days.

Please keep female cats indoors for at least 10 days.

PAIN MEDICATION

Cats receive injectable pain medication in the hospital and usually do not require additional pain medication at home. Please call us if your cat seems excessively uncomfortable.

**DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDITIONAL PAIN MEDICATION WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF A VETERINARIAN.
MANY HUMAN PAIN MEDICATIONS ARE HIGHLY TOXIC TO CATS.**

FOOD AND WATER

Give food and water to your cat when you get home.

Call for veterinary advice if your cat is not eating for more than 24 hours after surgery.

SURGERY SITE

Please check the incision once a day. If it appears red, painful, oozing or open, please call the clinic. No suture removal is necessary.

Do NOT allow your pet to lick excessively at the surgery site. Your pet has been given a no-lick collar (aka E-Collar) to prevent it from licking the area. We recommend male cats wear the collar for 3 days and female cats for 2 weeks. You may need to remove the collar for eating/drinking. Additional collars can be purchased from the Humane Society Clinic for \$5.

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