

PLEASE READ PRIOR TO PICKING UP YOUR CAT AND BRING WITH YOU AT DISCHARGE

At least one family member must be responsible for reading this entire instruction sheet.

Your pet requires your love and attention. When your cat leaves the clinic, you assume an observer's role in its recovery. The 24-hour period after surgery is an especially important time. Please remember your cat has undergone a routine but major surgery (females have an ovariohysterectomy; males undergo a castration). Some cats will appear sleepy from the lingering anesthetic and/or sedative required to perform the surgery. Your cat's activity level usually fully returns by the next day.

Please follow these instructions carefully to ensure your cat's comfort and well-being.

1. KEEP YOUR CAT INDOORS:

- All cats must continue to stay in their carriers for at least 1 HOUR after being picked up from surgery.
- Confine your cat to a quiet room to recover (example: bedroom or bathroom) away from children, pets, stairs and other hazards until the following morning. Common sense dictates not to allow random roaming.
- For a MINIMUM of 7-10 DAYS:

A) Do NOT allow your cat OUTSIDE

B) RESTRICT ACTIVITY: No jumping or running; No stair climbing; No playing with other pets; No rough-housing. Excessive activity often leads to re-injury or serious complications that may necessitate re-operation. This means additional expense to you and added discomfort to your cat.

2. FEEDING AND WATER:

-Feeding is an important part of your cat's recovery. Do not offer food or water for at least 2 hours after your cat arrives home.

-Then offer a small amount of water, and one-third of their normal meal. Some cats will eat, while others will not. Either behavior is normal. Tomorrow you may resume normal feeding.

3. SUTURES (STITCHES):

-No suture removal is required for both male and female cats. You do NOT need to return for suture removal.

-For your convenience and to eliminate any annoyance to your cat, our surgeon closes the skin in female cats with dissolvable sutures. That is a stitch that is below the skin, out of sight and not requiring removal. Male cats have no sutures in their skin at all.

4. SURGICAL INCISION:

-The first night home...Check the incision every 2 hours. For the next 14 days, check it a few times daily.
-FEMALES may develop a walnut size lump and slight redness around the incision...this can be normal.

Gradually, the swelling should decrease and look better daily.

-Please discourage your cat from licking at the incision. An Elizabethan collar may be purchased at your local animal hospital or pet supply store.

-For the first 14 days: Keep the incision clean and dry. Please do not put any products on the incision. Please do not wash the incision directly or submerge it under water completely. Sponge baths for dirty feet and soiled spots can be done with care.

-If any of the following conditions occur, please call The Stop Clinic, at 617-571-7151, during office hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Monday -Friday. (Please, leave a message and your call will be promptly returned)

-Discharge or Bleeding from the incision -Excessive swelling or redness of the incision -Removal of internal sutures and "gaping" of the incision -AFTER, the first day home, any depression, vomiting, lack of appetite or lethargy (example: excessively tired).

5. PROBLEMS, COMPLICATIONS AND EMERGENCIES, we define as the following:

A) A PROBLEM is anything that concerns you and does not seem normal under the circumstances. Solution: Call The STOP Clinic at 617-571-7151 during office hours 9A.M. -5 P.M.

B) A COMPLICATION is a matter that requires veterinary attention, which could be as simple as advice only, or a trip to the veterinarian at The STOP Clinic. Solution: Call The STOP Clinic at 617-571-7151 during office hours 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

C) AN EMERGENCY implies a life-threatening condition. This level of trouble is almost non-existent in our patients, however, call our clinic immediately. If off hours, use the following beeper number to contact the doctor for surgical emergencies only: Beeper number: 617-854-0030. The doctor will return your call within 30 minutes of receiving a page.

If you incur fees at a clinic other than the Stop Clinic, we will not assume liability for the fees. Please note: We do NOT charge for follow-up visits at The STOP Clinic.

Did you know...

Spaying and neutering helps cats live longer, healthier lives.

Spaying eliminates the possibility of uterine and ovarian cancer and greatly reduces the chance of breast cancer.

Neutering eliminates the risk of testicular cancer.

Neutered males are less likely to spray or mark their territory.

One female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats in seven years.

Approximately 71% of cats and kittens entering shelters are killed, based on reports from 1,038 facilities across America.



Stop The Overpopulation of Pets

P.O. Box 93,
Weymouth,
MA 02127

617.571.7151

www.thestopclinic.com