



# NEUTERING YOUR KITTEN

## When and Why..?

We recommend that all male or female kittens should be spayed (females) or castrated (males). This can be done from 4 months of age onwards. If your kitten is not neutered and is going outside it is highly likely that the female will become pregnant before she is one year old, and the male will be chasing after females and fighting. There is a huge population of stray street cats in Abu Dhabi which causes many problems of fighting over food and space. Through fighting they can spread disease to our own pet cats, including the fatal FIV virus and skin diseases such as ringworm, which can also be passed on to humans (especially children). By neutering our cats we are helping to control the population so that the cats we have can live a healthier and more peaceful life.

## Don't Worry..!

Many people are worried about putting their kitten or cat through a general anaesthetic and surgery, but we would like to reassure you that this is a very safe and routine procedure. No surgery is without some small risk, but all precautions are taken to ensure your cat undergoes the procedure and recovery with as little stress and discomfort as possible.

## Males..

The operation for a male cat is extremely quick and there are not even any stitches to worry about. He will only be in the clinic for one day, and should be kept in for one night at home before going back to his normal routine the following day. After castration he is much less likely to spray urine in the house and should also be less likely to fight or stray far from his home.

## Females..

The operation for a female takes slightly longer and she will have a wound on her belly with hidden dissolvable sutures. She is also only in the clinic for one day but should be kept indoors for 10 days after surgery if possible to protect the wound and prevent her from being too active during the recovery period. Both males and females are given pain relief injections and most cats seem to be back to their normal self 24 hours after surgery.

**Please call the clinic at 02 556 2024 to make an appointment for your cat. If you would like to speak to a vet or nurse about anything else you are welcome to call and ask for further advice.**