

Some common questions . . .

Should female dogs have had their first season or a litter of puppies before being spayed?

No, there are no health-related reasons for waiting until after her first season before spaying a female dog. It is often in the first season that they get 'caught' as their owners haven't realised they were in season!

Will a neutered dog put on weight?

No, dogs will not put on weight as long as they are fed sensibly and get enough exercise.



It's Nicer to Neuter!



**PLEASE BE A RESPONSIBLE OWNER
AND NEUTER YOUR DOG.**

If you would like to support Dogs Trust or for more information and factsheets about all aspects of dog ownership, please visit www.dogstrust.ie

or contact:
Dogs Trust
Ashbourne Road
Finglas
D11 K003

Tel: 01 879 1000 or 1890 25 29 28
Registered Charity Number: 20057978

What is neutering?

Neutering is the general term used for the surgical removal of the reproductive organs in both male and female dogs.

Castration is the removal of the testicles of the male dog.

Spaying is the removal of the ovaries and uterus of the female dog.

It is nicer to neuter!

There are lots of reasons - **behavioural, health and financial.**

Behaviour

Neutering may encourage calmer, more predictable behaviour making the dog a more suitable family pet.

It may help reduce aggressive and unwanted sexual behaviour, preventing fighting, mounting and destructive behaviour. Dogs that are neutered are also less likely to mark territory or stray!

Neutering reduces the likelihood of strange behaviour in female dogs coming into season (for about three weeks, twice a year).

It also prevents male dogs desperately attempting to escape and seek out a local female dog in season.

Health

Neutering removes the significant health risks associated with pregnancy as well as the possibility of potentially fatal womb infections (pyometra).

It avoids the mess and inconvenience of seasons (heats).

Neutering reduces or removes the risks of some cancers in both male and female dogs, including testicular and mammary cancers.

Financial

Neutering prevents the unnecessary costs of unplanned pregnancies and raising puppies.

Neutering Campaigns

There are already thousands of stray and abandoned dogs in Ireland, many of which are needlessly destroyed each year. If owners were to have their dogs neutered, much of this unnecessary suffering could be avoided.

Dog owners in receipt of means-tested social welfare payments can avail of the opportunity to have their dogs neutered for €35 via the Dogs Trust Subsidised Neutering Scheme*. To be eligible to have your dog neutered via the Dogs Trust Farm Dog Neutering Scheme* you will need to be in possession of a relevant herd or flock number.

We also work with local authorities and other partners to promote the benefits of neutering through responsible dog ownership events and initiatives.

Should you require any information on our neutering schemes, please call our

Neutering Hotline:

1890 946 336

When should I get my dog neutered?

Most vets will neuter dogs of either sex from the age of about four months, although it can be done at any age. If you need any advice on when to neuter your dog, please contact your vet.

How long will it take my dog to recover?

Recovery time is approximately ten days but will depend on your dog. Your vet will be able to advise you about how to keep your dog calm to ensure they recover quickly.

* Limited supply of neutering vouchers available at participating veterinary practices throughout Ireland.