



## Spaying and Neutering Your Adult Dog: Why it Still Matters

If your dog is between 1 and 6 years old and hasn't been spayed or neutered yet, it's not too late to consider this important procedure. While many pets are altered as puppies, adult dogs can still benefit greatly—both medically and behaviorally.

### Health Benefits of Spaying and Neutering

One of the biggest reasons to spay or neuter your dog is to prevent certain types of cancer. For females, spaying reduces the risk of uterine infections (like pyometra) and mammary tumors, especially if done before their first or second heat cycle. In males, neutering helps prevent testicular cancer and can reduce the risk of prostate issues.

### Behavior Improvements

In addition to health benefits, spaying or neutering your adult dog can help curb unwanted behaviors. Neutered males are less likely to roam in search of a mate, which reduces the risk of accidents or getting lost. It can also decrease behaviors like mounting and urine marking. Female dogs that are spayed no longer go into heat, which can eliminate the messy and sometimes stressful behaviors that come with it.

### It's Not Too Late

Even if your dog has reached adulthood, they can still safely undergo the spay or neuter procedure. Your veterinarian may recommend pre-surgical lab work to ensure your dog is healthy enough for anesthesia, especially if they are older or have existing medical concerns.

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Spaying or neutering is also a key part of responsible pet ownership. It helps reduce the number of unwanted animals in shelters and contributes to a healthier pet population overall.

Talk to your veterinarian about the benefits of spaying or neutering your adult dog and whether it's the right time to schedule the procedure. It's never too late to make a positive impact on your pet's health and behavior.

If you have any questions, feel free to give us a call, text or email.

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