

Dog Castration

Dogs can be castrated from around six months of age. This is a simple, low risk operation and almost all dogs go home the same day.

Advantages of castration include reduced wandering and less aggression towards other dogs if performed at an early age. It also eliminates the risk of unwanted litters. The only disadvantage is that some dogs can gain some weight. This is easily counteracted by appropriate feeding.

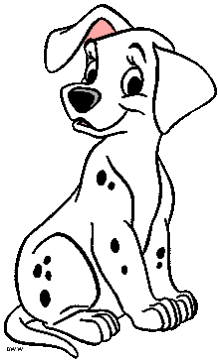


Bitch Spay

We recommend having your bitch spayed around 3 months after her first season or at 7-8 months old if it is impossible to separate her from male dogs during her first season. This is a routine operation and again, almost all animals go home the same day.

Advantages of Spaying

- Eliminates the risk of Pyometra (a serious womb infection)
 - Eliminates False/Unwanted Pregnancy
- Dramatically reduces the risk of mammary tumours in later life if done early
 - Removes the need to separate from male dogs



Disadvantages of Spaying

- Bitches can gain weight afterwards
- Bitches can develop (treatable) urinary incontinence when older
- Bitches can develop infantile vulva leading to irritation (only if spayed before their
 - 1st season)



Overall, the benefits of spaying your bitch far outweigh the potential drawbacks. If however you do not want your pet spayed or are considering breeding from your bitch, a drug called Delvosterone can be used to stop her coming into season. This involves bringing your dog in every five months for an injection after an initial course. The injection is relatively painful, does not reduce the risk of tumours/pyometra and works out far more expensive in the long run.

