

POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR CAT

IMPORTANT: DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CAT OR OTHER PETS TO LICK OR CHEW ITS INCISION. IF THIS HAPPENS, GET A “BITE NOT” OR ELIZABETHAN COLLAR IMMEDIATELY!

FEMALE CATS: KEEP INSIDE AND QUIET FOR 7 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. She can smell like she is in heat for 7 days, so keep male cats away.

MALE CATS: KEEP INSIDE AND QUIET FOR 5 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. He can still be potent for up to 14 days, so keep him away from female cats.

THE NIGHT AFTER SURGERY: + Keep your cat in a quiet, confined area like a bathroom or bedroom. + Still in its carrier, place your cat in the room with food, water, and a litter box. + Open the carrier door and let your cat come out on its own. + Your cat may still be disoriented from the anesthesia and may bite or scratch -- keep children and other pets away!

Your cat has been given an injection of an anti-inflammatory that will help reduce swelling for at least 24 hours. Do NOT give any human pain medication to your pet. You have the option of a pain medication injection that will last for 3 days.

THINGS TO WATCH FOR FOLLOWING SURGERY:

- Your cat may be uncoordinated and weak from the anesthesia for the next 24 hours.
- It may feel some nausea and not want to eat - this is normal.
- Some redness and swelling at the incision site is normal.

OBSERVE YOUR PET FOR:

- Loss of appetite for more than 2 days, or refusal to drink water for more than 1 day.
- Severe depression or weakness, or vomiting after the first 24 hours.
- Diarrhea, severe pain, or incision drainage.

WOUND CARE:

- Your female cat has NO EXTERNAL sutures (unless otherwise instructed). Male cats require no sutures at all.
- If there is any discharge or foul odor, or if the incision opens, get medical attention as soon as possible (see below).
- Do not bathe your pet for the next 7 days, as this may cause infection at the surgery site. A sponge bath, avoiding the incision, is allowed.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR DECLAW SURGERY FOR THE NEXT 14 DAYS:

- Use shredded newspaper or Feline Pine litter - gravel litter will stick to the incisions.
- Do not handle or try to clean your cat's paws - cat will lick and clean paws on their own. If the cat is chewing or causing irritation, your cat may need an E-collar.
- Keep in a restricted area - on a padded floor such as carpet, not on tile floors. Do NOT allow jumping or any activity that will cause a shock to the front paws.
- All cats that undergo declaw surgery are given an injection of pain medication that will last for 3 days.

If you have concerns about your pet's condition or incision, call PetLuv Monday through Saturday. We will do a recheck at no charge for surgery-related problems only. If you elect to go elsewhere, we are not responsible for any costs you may incur. For life-threatening emergencies during non-business hours, call an emergency clinic at (813) 265-4043, or consult your local yellow pages. (Please note: PetLuv is not affiliated with any emergency clinic. Any charges incurred are the client's responsibility.)

