



**Officer Vet**

409 Princes Highway, Officer 3809  
PO Box 152 Beaconsfield 3807

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[www.officervet.com.au](http://www.officervet.com.au)



# DESEXING YOUR CAT

## **What happens on the day my cat is desexed?**

A booking is necessary for the day of the desexing. Your cat is dropped off in the morning and will go home that afternoon or evening. Once admitted your pet will be made to feel as comfortable as possible prior to the surgery and will also receive sedation and pain relief via an injection. This injection (premed) will calm your pet, reduce the amount of anaesthetic required and aid in a smooth recovery. The surgery is performed under sterile conditions, during which your pet is continuously monitored by a nurse. Your pet will receive pain relief during the surgery, also aiding in their recovery from the desexing. After the surgery your pet is closely monitored until they have recovered fully from the anaesthetic.

## **What is involved in the desexing (spey) of my female cat?**

Desexing a female cat involves abdominal surgery to remove the uterus and both ovaries, also known as an ovariectomy, through a small incision in the belly. Stitches in the surgery site will have to be removed 10 days after the surgery. The left ear is tattooed to identify that she has been desexed.

## **What is involved in the desexing (castration) of my male cat?**

Desexing a male cat involves the removal of both testes from the scrotum. There are **no** external stitches placed in the skin of the scrotum, so he will **not** need to return to the clinic after the desexing for any stitch removal. The left ear is tattooed to identify that he has been desexed.

## **Care after desexing your cat.**

After being desexed, your cat will need to be kept quiet for the next 5-7 days. This normally involves keeping them inside during this time which will enable them to recover safely and heal well.

## **What are the benefits of desexing my cat?**

We strongly recommend desexing your cat before adulthood as there are many benefits. Male cats are far less likely to spray urine to mark their territories, while unwanted pregnancies are no longer a concern in female cats.

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Desexed cats are also less likely to wander, reducing the risk of cat fight abscesses, accidental poisoning (eg snail bait, ratsac), being hit by a car and contracting feline aids virus (spread by cat fights). Another benefit, not related to health, is that it is far cheaper to register your desexed cat with the council. So unless you have a desire to breed from you cat (which in itself can have major complications) there are far more benefits to desexing your cat than keeping it entire.



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