

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP
Why it is Important to Desex Your Dog

FEMALE DOGS

1. **No unwanted puppies.** Each year thousands of unwanted puppies are put to sleep in pounds and shelters around Australia.
2. **No more coming into heat.** This means no messy bleeding and none of the neighbourhood dogs hanging around.
3. **No ovarian or uterine cancer.** These organs are removed.
4. **Decreased risk of mammary cancer.** The incidence is 0.05% if spayed before the first oestrus, 8% if spayed after this, and 26% if spayed after the second oestrus. If a bitch has 4 or more cycles she has a greater than 50% chance of developing mammary cancer.



Mammary Tumour
(Breast Cancer)



5. **No pyometra.** This is an infection of the uterus. Without treatment it is fatal.
6. **No false pregnancies.**
7. **Cheaper council registration.**



Pyometra (a uterus filled with pus)

We can spay your female while she is young and healthy and an excellent surgical candidate or we can wait until a problem develops and the procedure has to be done as an emergency on a less than ideal surgical candidate. The latter increases the risk of anaesthesia and surgery, not to mention the cost to you.

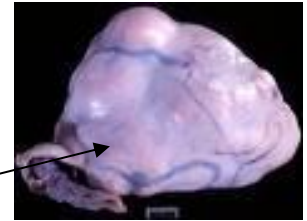
RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

Why it is Important to Desex Your Dog

MALE DOGS

1. **No testicular cancer.** Dogs which are left undesexed have a much higher risk of developing testicular cancer as they enter old-age.

A testicular tumour



2. **Decreased testosterone-related behaviour problems.** A male dog which remains intact experiences a huge increase in testosterone in adolescence. This leads to hormone related behaviours such as urine marking in your house, aggression towards other dogs, territorial aggression, and escape related behaviours in order to roam and seek out a female. This may mean jumping the fence and getting into a fight with another dog or even being hit by a car.



3. **Risk of prostatic hyperplasia reduced by 80%.** This is common in entire males and may make it difficult for the dog to pass faeces by narrowing the diameter of the rectum.



A canine prostatic cyst evident on a radiograph and then at surgery.

4. **Reduced risk of prostatic infections.** These infections are almost impossible to cure without desexing your dog.

Desexing your male puppy at a young age reduces many health risks as well as eliminating testosterone-related problem behaviours. Although it may decrease aggressive behaviour, contrary to the beliefs of some, it does not make your dog fat and lazy.