

Common dog breed weights: *for spay/neuter appointments if animal owner reports inaccurate weight, we may not be able to do the surgery on the scheduled day. It is the animal owner responsibility to have an accurate weight for their dog. They can bring their dog in to weigh them here OR they can stand on a scale (weigh themselves) then hold the dog and to weigh together to see what their pet weighs. The weights below are to use as a rough estimate if a client really cannot determine the weight of their dog.*

**Dogs over 80lbs need supervisor approval.*

Breed	Weight
Akita and Alaskan Malamutes	85lbs +
Anatolian Shepherds	100lbs+
Australian Cattle dogs	50lbs +
Border Collies	55lbs +
Boxers	80lbs +
Mastiffs and Cane Corso	110lbs+
Chihuahuas	Less than 15lbs
Doberman	100lbs +
German Shepherd	80lbs+
Great Dane	175lbs
Great Pyrenees	100lbs+
Maltese	Less than 10lbs
Pointers	Less than 70lbs
Poodles	Less than 20 lbs
Retrievers and Labs	Less than 80lbs
Rottweilers	Less than 100lbs
Huskies	Less than 70lbs
Pitbull	Less than 80lbs

Spay/Neuter appointment drop off instructions

**Failure to follow instructions may result in appointment cancellation or reschedule. Please read and follow.*

Your pet is scheduled for a spay/neuter appointment with the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter. The surgery will take place in our ANNEX building which is in the back of our campus and has its own parking lot. **Do not** park in the front at the main Shelter. **The address is 2200 7th Ave.** You must drop off at your scheduled drop off time. If you are late, we may need to reschedule your appointment. We have a waiting list of more than 100 animals that need low cost surgeries, please arrive on time.

When you arrive, please park in our lot at 2200 7th Ave. (there is a little green house that says “Education Building”) and leave your pet in your vehicle and check in with a staff member. Please expect a line and please be patient with our team of staff and volunteers. We understand that you may have to go to work or have other appointments, but you should be prepared for the check in and pick up process to take 30 minutes or more. If there is not room in our parking lot, please park across the street at the Veterans Hall and wait for a spot to open in our lot. When a spot opens, drive over to our parking lot. **DO NOT** park in the Casa La Familia parking lot. **DO NOT** park far away and walk your pet over.

Cats must be in a carrier. If you do not have a carrier, you should come to the Shelter ahead of time to borrow one. We will not take a loose cat out of your car. If you arrive with a cat that is not in a carrier, you will have to wait until we are finished checking in all other clients because we will need to go into the Shelter and locate a carrier for you. Failure to bring your cat in a carrier may result in your appointment being rescheduled.

Dogs must be on a secure leash. Small dogs can be brought in a carrier. We will not allow dogs to enter our building on a prong or other “pain collar” such as: pinch, prong, shock, or choke collars. Dogs must be on a flat collar, martingale, or harness. If you do not have one, we will ask you to put a slip leash on your pet before they enter the building. Please keep your pet secure while on the Shelter property. You should not introduce your pet to other animals while on our site

Thank you for following these instructions so that we can provide this low cost service to more people in the community! If you have questions regarding your pets surgery, please call the main line during our business hours everyday (excluding holidays) between 10am-6pm. If you have an animal emergency, you should call the local emergency vet clinic.

After care instructions: *failure to follow these instructions can result in serious injury and additional costs because you may have to seek emergency care for your pet. Please review and follow these instructions.*

Emergency:

- Dripping blood (actively bleeding)
- Animal is not eating/drinking/urinating/defecating for 48 hours.
 - Keep in mind we give the animals opioids and just like with humans; opioids slow down the intestinal track and can cause constipation. They also can cause nausea. This may last 24-48 hours. This symptom may NOT be surgery related but needs to be addressed.
- Bulge at incision that flattens when pressed and reappears when no pressure is present.

Needs to be seen soon but not an emergency:

- Incision red, swollen with or without discharge
- Puss discharge from incision or warm hard lump at incision that is painful when touched
- Animal running a fever (102.5 and up)
- Incision is open

CATS

Cat Post Op Video : https://youtu.be/9fi_PJBCdEA

Post Surgery Information:

- Your cat will be stoned or high from the drugs tonight. S/he should be back to normal tomorrow. DO NOT OPEN THE CARRIER until you are home!
- Skin sutures are buried and therefore do not need removal.
- The green line(s) is the tattoo. The excess ink will wear off.
- Cats should not need collars or cones. If the cat is chewing on the incision site, then there is a problem that we need to check.

Please follow instructions below:

- Keep indoors overnight, no playing with children or other pets
- Return to normal diet and feeding schedule when you arrive home. Your cat may not feel like eating tonight but should return to normal in a day or two.
- Keep your cat indoors for the next 5 days (ideally forever).
- Check the incision daily for 5-7 days.

Please call us if there is:

- Discharge from the incision after the first day
- If the incision opens up
- Concerns about the incision

DOGS

Dog Post Op Video: <https://youtu.be/mQYAjLfzk4w>

Post Surgery Information:

- Your dog will be groggy from the drugs tonight. S/he should be mostly back to normal tomorrow.
- Skin sutures are buried and therefore do not need removal.
- The green line(s) is the tattoo. The excess ink will wear off.
- If the dog is chewing on the incision site, then s/he will need to wear an e-collar/cone for a few days.

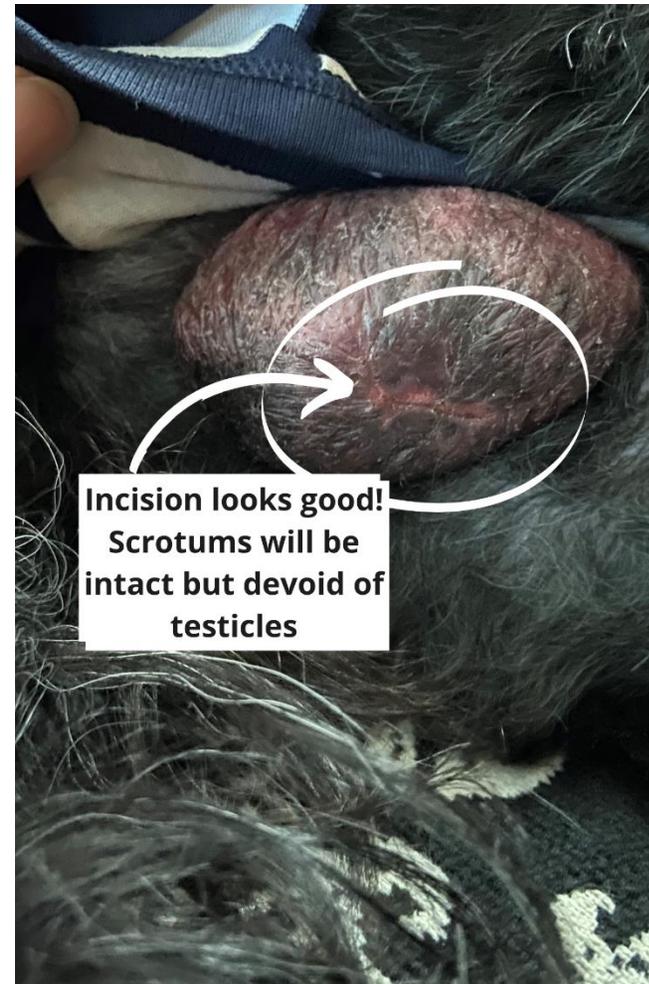
Please follow instructions below:

- Keep indoors overnight, no playing with children or other pets
- Return to normal diet and feeding schedule when you arrive home. Your dog may not feel like eating tonight but should return to normal in a day or two.
- Keep your dog confined for the next 5 days – no dog parks, no beaches.
- Check the incision daily for 5-7 days. A small amount of swelling is normal. Boy dogs may have a small amount of reddish discharge for a few days.

Please call us if there is:

- Discharge from the incision after the first day
- If the incision opens up
- Concerns about the incision

Some things you may see **if your pet is overactive during their recovery**. Remember, your pet needs rest after their surgery!! Do not take them to the dog park, beach, let them outside unsupervised. They shouldn't be playing with children or other pets. They need to be calm and get rest for 5-7 days while their incision heals. Failure to enforce these recovery protocols with your pet may result in some of the following concerns.





Normal spay incision
right after surgery.



Not normal. Infection
and open incision.
Needs vet attention.

