

# The Importance of Neutering

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**BCWR Kittens believes you must neuter your cat due to the many health and behavioural benefits it offers.**

The most obvious reason for neutering is to avoid your cat producing an unwanted litter of kittens.

Unfortunately, the numbers of unwanted pets is on the increase so it is more important than ever to make sure that your cat doesn't accidentally add to the problem.

The health benefits to neutering are significant. Neutering removes the risk of many cancers and drastically reduces the risk of other serious infections too.

Female cats that have not been neutered will be triggered to come into season at different points usually between March and September. When a cat is in season, she might make a very strange noise known as 'calling'. It can sound like your cat is in pain and usually takes place through the night. The mating experience for a female cat is non-consensual and is often carried out by several males. This is a very unpleasant and painful occurrence and is often equated to the human experience – Rape.

A male cat that has not been neutered will spray urine to mark his territory. The urine of a male cat has a very strong and offensive odour. Neutering will usually prevent this behaviour and the urine of a neutered male cat does not have the same particularly strong smell of a tom cat.

There is also less risk in a neutered cat, of fight wounds, abscesses and sexually transmitted infections that can be transmitted by fighting, biting and exchange of bodily fluids.

The risk of road traffic accidents is higher in un-neutered cats because the territory they roam is much larger. A neutered male cat is less likely to roam far from home in search of females.

When your cat is neutered, you would normally drop them off at the vets in the morning of the operation and pick them up the same afternoon or evening. It is important not to give your cat any food 12 hours prior to their neutering but they can be given access to water.

If you have any questions about neutering including if someone may be eligible to low cost neutering please contact Katie on 07942822509. Alternatively speak to your vet who will also be able to advise you.