



**Southside
Animal
Hospital**

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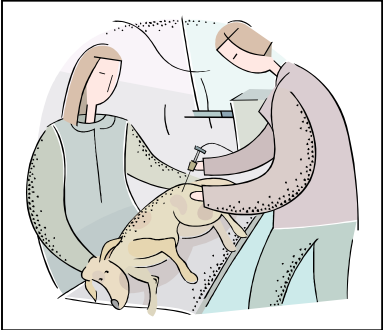


How To Care For Your Cat After A Declaw

Your cat has been declawed. This means that the first bone of the front toes were surgically removed. This is a common procedure, but is surgery. For ideal healing, you must perform proper post-operative care. Recovery is usually uneventful, but occasionally complications occur. Doing the following things decrease the chance of complications.

Exercise Your cat will probably have decreased activity for 7 to 10 days following surgery. Do not encourage excessive activity to allow your cat to heal.

Monitoring the feet You should monitor the feet for redness swelling, bleeding or oozing fluid. Also watch to see if your cat is still showing tenderness on his feet after 2 weeks. If you notice any of these things, alert us this complication.



Litter *You cannot use clay litter while your cat is healing from surgery. You must use paper litter.* You can shred up newspaper or other paper and place it in the litter box. The clay granules can get into the incisions on the toes and cause infections.

Other Complications Also monitor your pet for depression, vomiting, diarrhea, or not eating. Alert us if you notice any of these signs.

Pre-Operative Blood Work
 Normal _____ Abnormal _____ Not Performed _____
 Comments _____

Sutures If laser surgery was done, your cat may have sutures. These do not need to be removed. They will be gone in 3 to 4 weeks.

Pain Medicine Your pet has been given an injection after surgery to control pain. You have been given medicine to give your pet to help control pain for the next three days. Start giving the pain medicine _____.

Additional Comments _____

