

COVID-19 Kitten Alert



Neutering of cats is more important than ever

With COVID-19 restrictions on travel and access to vets more and more unneutered cats are likely to have kittens this summer. Vets are only doing limited neutering during COVID-19 and most practices are unable to work at full capacity and having to prioritise emergencies.



What you can do to protect your cat from getting pregnant during this time:



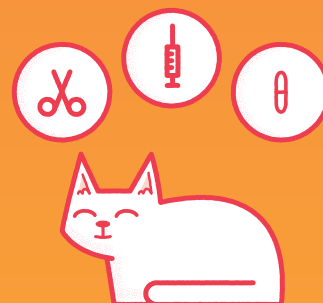
Get in touch with your local vet

When veterinary practices are able to neuter at full capacity again, you'll be able to schedule an appointment to have your cat(s) neutered. It's best to phone your vet now to find out what their specific situation is and when you'll be likely to get booked in.



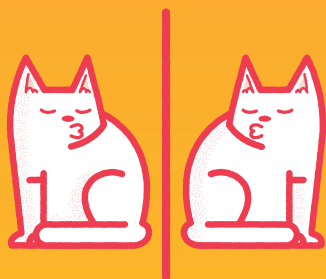
Keep unneutered cats indoors

Keeping your unneutered cat inside if possible and away from other unneutered cats will prevent unplanned litters. Remember to keep their minds stimulated with puzzle feeders and interactive play as some cats will become frustrated if kept indoors.



Don't let kittens have kittens

Female cats, known as queens, can become sexually mature from just four months of age. It's really important not to let your kittens outside before they've been neutered, vaccinated and microchipped!



Brother and sister? Cats don't care!

If you have a male and female kitten in your household and they're not yet neutered, chances are this could result in an unplanned litter. Cats will mate with their siblings so it's important to try and keep your male and female cats separated during this time.



Don't be tempted to have cute kittens...

Any pregnancy in a cat always has an associated risk of complications and access to veterinary care is limited at the moment. There is also a huge number of unwanted cats and kittens already in the UK, so for these reasons, we'd advise you avoid your cat getting pregnant at this time.



Cats Protection can help

Worried about anything related to neutering or need help with costs? We're offering neutering vouchers across the UK to be used when vet practices are fully operational again. Call our Neutering line on **03000 12 12 (option 2)** or visit our website at www.cats.org.uk/neutering for more information and advice.