

Getting Your Pet Ready for Surgery

At Animal Care Hospital, we try to make your pet's surgery as safe as possible. Please try to follow the instructions below. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us. We will do whatever we can to help you understand everything we do and why it is important.

Your pet must be current on all vaccination. Your pet(s) must also be free of intestinal parasites (such as worms) and external parasites (such as fleas and ticks). If not, your pet(s) will be treated accordingly for safety and hygienic reasons. These must be current before we can proceed with any surgery.

Blood work: Please try to bring your pet in a few days before their procedure after an 8-12 hour fast. Blood work is done to try to ensure that there are no hidden problems with your pet that may adversely affect your pet while under anesthesia. This information will be used by the doctor to try to prevent any unexpected complications with your pet's surgery.

The night before surgery: Please take away all food before 8 pm. Water is okay to be left out unless instructed otherwise by the doctor or technician. If your Dog is having Hip, Knee, or other Orthopedic Surgery, Please bath your dog at least the day before surgery, to help prevent infection. DO NOT bath your dog the day of surgery as wet fur can lead to infection!

The day of surgery: Please bring your pet in between at your scheduled check in time unless otherwise instructed. **Please administer any medications that are due that morning and bring the medications with you, unless instructed not to by the hospital staff.** You will need to fill out, review and sign a consent form stating the procedure your pet will be undergoing. Please be sure to leave a telephone number where you can be reached so that we can update you once your pet is in recovery. **If you (the Owner) will not be the person checking the pet in, please have the consent form filled out in advance with all the necessary information.** The check in process does take about 15 minutes.

Discharge: Your pet will be released as soon as he/she is eating and drinking well, and is able to walk and move with ease. With most surgeries, we will release your pet the same night. However, it is the doctor's final decision on when your pet goes home. A release date and time will be set after the procedure is complete so that a doctor or technician can go over release instructions appropriate for your pet. *If you (the Owner) will not be the person picking the pet up at discharge, please have payment arrangements made in advance.*