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After Surgery: How to Care for Your Pet

Your pet has had major surgery and will need to be well cared-for afterwards to help prevent complications. Following the instructions below will help ensure your pet has a safe and comfortable recovery.

1. Limit Activity

Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry, and warm. Feral cats need to stay in a shelter for 48hrs. NO running or jumping for 10 days.

2. Diet

Your pet's appetite should return gradually within 24 hours. Give your pet a ½ size meal for their evening meal. Puppies and kittens may have an additional small meals if not vomiting. Water should always be available.

3. Keep the Incision Dry

No bathing for 10 days. Do NOT allow pet to lick at incision site. Licking is the #1 surgical complication. Keep the e-collar on.

4. Check Their Incision Twice Daily

Monitor for swelling, redness, wetness, and good closure of skin

5. Keep In-Heat Females Away From Males

Hormones will persist for up to 4 weeks after surgery

6. Look Out for Complications

Let your veterinarian know if you notice any of the following signs. This includes: