

# Preparing for Your Pet's Surgery Day

## What to Know Before You Go

We know that preparing your pet for surgery can feel a little overwhelming — but don't worry! We're here to guide you through every step so you feel confident and informed.

Whether your pet is scheduled for a routine spay or a more advanced procedure, this article will walk you through **how to prepare, what to expect on the day of surgery, and what pick-up will look like**. Please take a few minutes to read this ahead of your pet's appointment day.

*If you have any questions please reach out prior to day of surgery to give our medical team time to address these concerns thoroughly.*

## The Day Before Surgery



### FEEDING

Your pet can have dinner the night before surgery, but no food should be given after **10:00 PM** — no late-night treats or snacks.

- **Water is okay** – leave the water bowl out overnight.



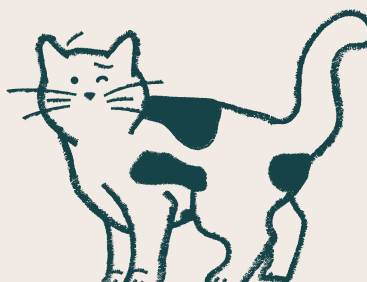
### FASTING IS CRITICAL!

Fasting helps reduce the risk of vomiting or aspiration under anesthesia, which can be dangerous.



### SPECIAL DIET OR MEDICATIONS TO BRING

Please bring any medications or special diets with you, clearly labeled. This helps us ensure continuity of care while your pet is with us.



## Surgery Day - What to Expect



### ARRIVAL TIME

Please plan to arrive at **7:30 AM** for surgery drop-off.

We check in several surgical patients at this time, so **the full intake process can take up to 45 minutes**. This time allows our team to thoroughly review your pet's information, complete all safety protocols, and ensure clear communication. We appreciate your patience as we make sure every pet gets the careful attention they deserve.

**Helpful tip:** If your pet gets anxious or reactive around people or other animals, please call or text us from the parking lot so we can help with a smooth entry into the clinic.



### INTAKE INCLUDES:

- Applying an ID collar or patient sticker to their kennel
- Taking your pet's weight
- Reviewing and completing surgery consent and admission forms
- Going over any recent changes in health or medication

We'll also double-check the last time your pet ate to make sure it's safe to proceed with anesthesia.



### PRE-SURGERY EXAM

Your pet's veterinarian will perform a full physical exam. This helps us catch any hidden health issues before surgery. If anything abnormal shows up, we'll call you to discuss next steps.

## During the Day



### RELAXATION & SEDATION

Once cleared, your pet will receive medications to help them relax and make their experience more comfortable while they wait for surgery.



### ANESTHESIA & MONITORING

During surgery, your pet will be under **sevoflurane gas anesthesia** and monitored continuously.

We track:

- Heart rate and rhythm
- Respiratory rate
- Blood pressure
- Oxygen and CO<sub>2</sub> levels
- Body temperature

A dedicated technician stays by your pet's side throughout the entire procedure and recovery process. Surgery times vary, but your pet will be under close supervision the entire day.



## After Surgery: Recovery and Pick-Up



### IMMEDIATE POST-OP CARE

Your pet will rest and recover in a quiet area with cozy blankets and close monitoring. We'll give them plenty of time to fully wake up and feel comfortable. We monitor vitals closely until they are fully awake and stable.



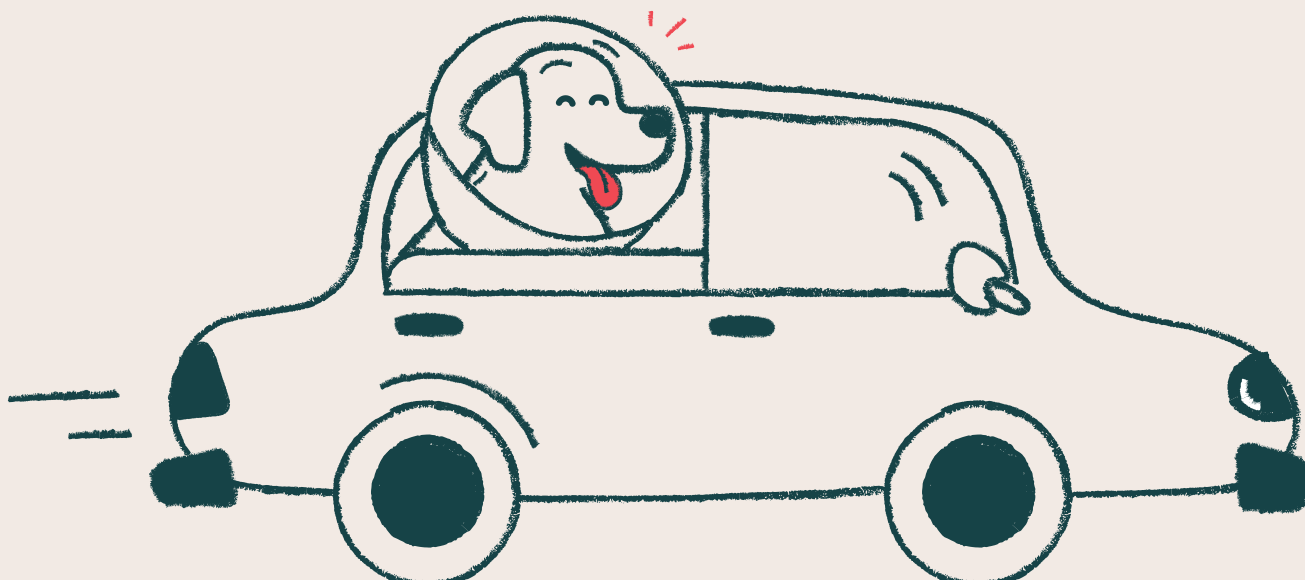
### WHEN WE'LL CALL YOU

We'll call or text you **after your pet is out of surgery and recovering** to update you on how everything went. This is typically in the **afternoon**, once they've had time to recover from anesthesia. **However, for dental procedures the surgeon may call you during the procedure if additional dental treatments or extractions are needed to discuss this additional cost.**



### WHEN TO PICK UP

Most pets are ready to go home **after 4:00 PM**, but we'll confirm your specific pick-up time when we call you with your post-op update. Some pets need a little extra time to wake up — and we'll always make sure it's safe before sending them home.





## Going Home: What to Expect



### DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

A doctor or technician will review all instructions with you at pick-up, including:

- Medications
- Food and activity restrictions
- Wound care if applicable
- When to schedule your recheck

You'll also get **emailed discharge instructions** to reference at home if needed — and we're just a phone call or text away if anything's unclear.



### FOLLOW-UP

If needed, your pet's recheck will typically be scheduled **1–3 weeks after surgery** to make sure everything is healing well. If your pet has sutures, a medical team member will check to see if they need to be removed.

## Still Have Questions?



We're here for you! If anything comes up before or after your pet's procedure, don't hesitate to reach out by phone or text.

**Thank you** for trusting us with your pet's care — we're honored to be part of their journey toward better health.

