

CATS AND THE COMMUNITY

Cats are great pets.

They can:

- Give you lots of love.
- Be great company.
- Catch rats and mice.



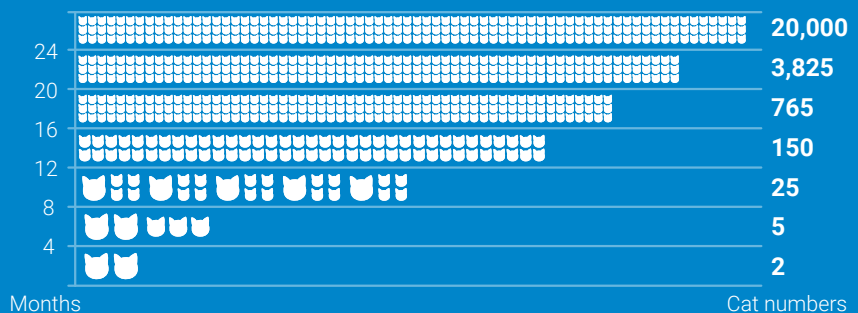
But cats can cause problems in the community because:

- Cats can have lots of babies quickly.
- Spray smelly wee.
- Be noisy (due to mating or fighting).



Did you know that cats can breed from 4 months old? One pair of cats can become thousands really fast!

The Cat Population Explosion: How Two Cats Can Become 20,000



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Desex your cat! This is an operation that stops your cat from being able to make or have babies.



Desexing is good for:

 Your cat's health

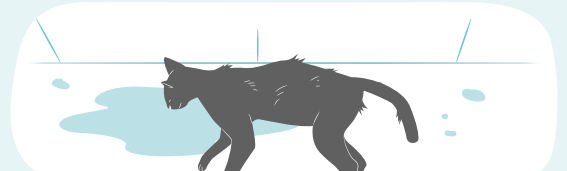
 The community

 Your wallet

 The environment/wildlife

DESEXING HELPS PREVENT:

- Unexpected litters.
- Sick or injured kittens living in the community without anyone to care for them.
- Injuries from roaming (like getting hit by a car, attacked by a dog and fighting with other cats).
- Mess through urine spraying.



DESEXING



VS

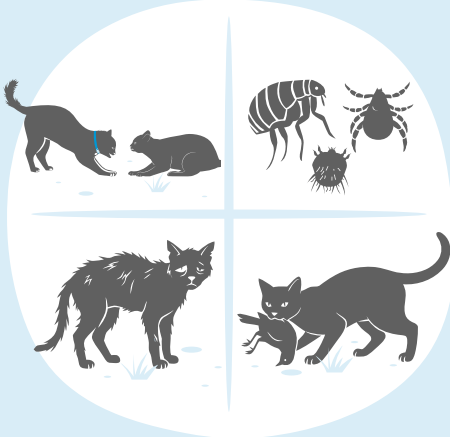
EMERGENCY VET CARE



DESEXING IS GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY!

Desexing is much cheaper than caring for lots of kittens or treating injuries to your cat.

It also stops the need for expensive emergency surgery if your female cat needs a C-section, or gets an infection in her uterus (called pyometra).



DESEXING HELPS THE COMMUNITY

Too many unowned cats in the community lead to:

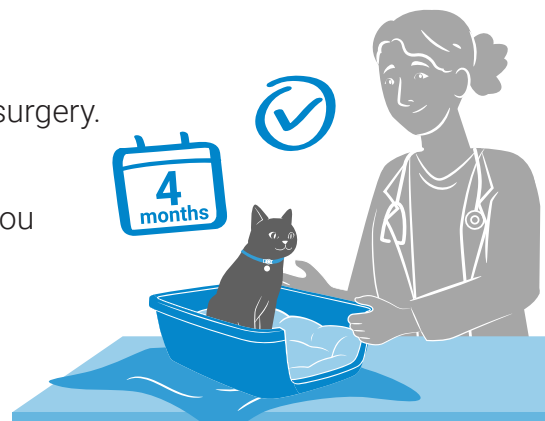
- Noise, mess and fighting.
- Spread of disease and parasites (some of these can also harm people).
- Lots of cats that require care and not enough people to look after them.
- Some cats becoming wild in the bush. They don't come near people. These cats often hunt wildlife to survive.

WHEN SHOULD CATS BE DESEXED?

Talk to your vet about when to book your cat's desexing surgery.

In NSW, cats must be desexed by 4 months old to avoid paying ongoing council penalties. Registration is free if you desex your cat before it is 4 months old!

Many vets will desex your cat from around 10 – 12 weeks of age.



BOOK YOUR CAT'S DESEXING WITH A VET TODAY!



If you need help to get your cat desexed, check online to see if there are any programs offering desexing that you can access.

Your vet can also give your cat a needle (vaccination) to help keep them healthy and a microchip (so they can find their way home if they get lost).



For advice about transporting your cat, see [Helping your cat feel safe in their carrier](#)

For more information about caring for cats, visit:

Meeting the Needs of Cats | Helping Your Cat Feel Safe, Healthy & Happy | RSPCA NSW

RSPCA
New South Wales