

WHY DO WE TATTOO CATS?

- Tattooing positively identifies pet cats that have been sterilized.
- Tattooing is completely safe. It is performed under general anesthetic. For sanitation, we do not ink spay incisions. Rather, we place ink (usually green) in a small surface cut near the umbilicus. This cut will heal without any further care.
- Tattooing provides clarification when a potential spay scar is found on a female or a lack of testicles is noted on a male.
 - An abdominal scar is not a positive indicator of a spayed cat. C-sections, hernia repairs, surgeries to remove intestinal blockage or injuries can all cause misleading scars. Spay scars can also fade over time, leaving no evidence of a spay.
 - Male cats can have a condition called cryptorchidism. This is when one or both testicles do not descend into the scrotum. If both testicles are crypt, a male cat would appear to be neutered.

MANY CATS WITHOUT TATTOOS ARE UNECESSARILY ANESTHETIZED TO BE SPAYED or NEUTERED ONLY TO DISCOVER THE SURGERIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN PERFORMED. THE PRESCENCE OF A TATTOO ENTIRELY ELIMINATES THIS MISTAKE.

