

EAR CROPPING

As a matter of style, certain breed of dogs such as Dobermans, Great Danes, Boston Terriers, Boxers, Schnauzers, American Bullies, and Pit Bulls have their ears trimmed to make them stand erect. You should know that it is optional/elective to have this procedure done, however most clients do elect to have the ears cropped for both health benefits and because of the breed standards.

AGE:

All breeds are trimmed at a minimum of five weeks of age, provided health is adequate and vaccinations are up-to-date for the particular age puppy. Surgery may be performed at **ANY** age, but usually is not recommended after six months. The older the puppy, the more active the puppy, stronger, coordinated, and vocal during the aftercare. This will often make the owner more apprehensive to restrain the puppy appropriately which will lead to poor cleaning and negligent topical medication application. This will result in more bleeding and inflammation from headshaking and clawing at the itchy ears which will result in more difficulty to retrain the puppy to clean the ears daily. Often, the older and larger the puppy, the more need for sedation, patience, and dedication from the care giver is required.

BEFORE SURGERY:

You will need to have an appointment with the veterinarian to examine your puppies general health, as well as ear structure, to determine that trimming is recommended. We recommend that your puppy have it's first Distemper/Parvovirus vaccination, be free of intestinal parasites, and be in good physical condition before surgery can be performed.

SURGERY:

- Surgery is performed by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**.
- Do **NOT** feed the puppy within 6 hours **PRIOR** to surgery.
- Remember there is **ALWAYS** some risk involved anytime anesthesia is used.
- We use the best and safest anesthesia available, evaluate the pet before anesthesia induction, and may recommend ECG screening of the heart rhythm, and blood testing to increase safety and minimize anesthesia risk to your puppy.
- Dogs are not hospitalized after surgery.

The first 14 days of aftercare is very explicitly explained in an aftercare document on our website and given to you and explained the day of the surgery. Dobermans, Great Danes, and Boxers always require weeks to months of ear posting after the suture removal and starts when the ears are completely healed. Other breeds such as Schnauzers, American Bullies, and Cane Corsos don't always require, but often will require several weeks of ear posting. Ear posting is a procedure starting on or after around 14 days following the surgery. The ears are posted as described in the posting manuscript and illustrated in the instructional videos on our website and social media page. There are **NO GUARANTEE** that the ears will stand, however most will stand with proper after-care for varying periods of time. Corrective surgery is possible later for dogs with cartilage defects that do not respond to proper taping. There are taping charges and office call charges for each visit following the initial surgery.

AFTERCARE:

- The first 14 days of aftercare following an ear crop are **VERY** difficult.
- If the aftercare isn't done correctly according to my discharge instructions, the ears may heal to be different shapes and sizes, with scarring and undesirable defects.

- Pictures sent via text messaging to our clinic cellphone, and daily phone calls to our clinic during business hours to inquire about our daily evaluations of your puppy's healing will greatly improve your outcome.
- Dobermans, Great Danes, and Boxers usually require ear posting/bracing after suture removal.
- There is **NO GUARANTEE** that the ears will stand, however, most will stand with proper after-care for varying periods of time. Corrective surgery is possible later for dogs with cartilage defects that do not respond to proper taping.
- There is a taping charge for each appointment when the ears must be retaped.
- You will be given an instruction sheet detailing post-surgical care at the time your pet is dismissed after surgery.

FEES:

The fee varies with the pet's weight and breed. The initial fee includes anesthesia, surgery, monitoring, and the recheck in ten days to remove sutures. There is an additional charge for future ear posting/bracing and taping after suture removal.

PLEASE FLIP OVER AND CONTINUE READING AND SIGN

Please read and circle and sign that you understand.

Do you understand the risks of anesthesia, and that there are risks as severe as brain damage and death during this elective procedure?

Yes No Sign _____

Do you understand that there are no guarantees that the ears will stand and they can heal abnormally, especially if you are not following the discharge instructions verbatim?

Yes No Sign _____

Do you understand that we only accept cash as a method of payment for this procedure and it will undoubtable cost between \$350-500 for this procedure?

Yes No Sign _____

You are giving us permission to continue with the procedure?

Yes No Sign _____

Pets name: _____

Owner's name: (Print Legibly) _____

Date: _____