

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Promoting
Responsible
Dog
Ownership**



Desex your Dog for a Happy Hound

Desexing a puppy at the right age is important for improving the welfare of a dog. Desexed animals are less likely to escape from a home and do not mark their territory by spraying the house with urine. Desexing makes both male and female dogs fit into your family, your household routine and society generally.

“There are so many myths surrounding the desexing of dogs. People think their dogs will lose their personalities and become fat and lazy, but this simply is not true. Some people still believe that a bitch has to have a litter of puppies to be “complete”. This is definitely not true. Desexed dogs will be calmer and less aggressive. Freeing them from a constant state of sexual frustration will make them healthier and happier pets.”, advises veterinarian and **Dogs NSW** spokesperson **Dr Peter Higgins**.

“Desexing a dog is a relatively simple operation carried out by your local vet. It takes very little time for your dog to recover from surgery as the operation is quick and simple. Most puppies can go in on Monday and be out by Tuesday.”, says **Dr Higgins**.

Failing to spay females can lead to unexpected litters of up to 15 puppies. Litters are expensive to bring up properly so are rarely sold at a profit. Pregnancy involves significant care, and supplementation of significant amounts of vitamins, minerals, and energy for the bitch and her puppies.

“Undesexed dogs act in a more territorial fashion than dogs who have been desexed. This can lead to animosity and fights between dogs. They can also escape and roam the neighbourhood. All of this is not good for the community, but it also not fair on the dog.”, states **Dr Higgins**.

“Many puppies and dogs are destroyed because they are unwanted, have been dumped, or allowed to escape from their home. Rather than have a litter at home it is better to put your time and energy into developing the relationship between you and your dog so that you have a wonderful pet. If you are a pet owner; you, your dog, and the community will be happier if it is desexed. This should happen at around 6 months of age.”, explains **Dr Higgins**.

Dr Higgins does recommend to ask your local veterinarian for advice about when to desex your dog and all other aspects of desexing.

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For further information or interviews, please contact:

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