

# Victoria Animal Hospital

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## DECLAW AFTERCARE

Your pet has undergone major surgery, and listed below are some aftercare instructions to aid in a pleasant recovery.

Use only shredded paper or a paper litter brand called “**Yesterday’s News**” for the next 14 days. Exposure to other litters or dirt from potted plants can result in an infection.

Check the toes daily for swelling or discharge. Keep the paws clean and dry. Call us if the cat is limping for more than 3 days after surgery. You may notice blue glue on the toes. This is a skin adhesive used to close the incisions.

The recovery time varies with each cat. Most will be healed completely in 2-6 weeks. Larger, older cats tend to take longer to heal compared to younger, smaller cats.

DO NOT ALLOW your pet to lick, chew, or scratch at the paws. If your pet licks or chews at the incision, it can cause infections and can cause the incision to re-open. This may occur at any time during the first 7-10 days after surgery. If your pet is bothering the incision you need to obtain pain medication(s) and an *Elizabethan Collar (E-Collar)* immediately. These collars are available from us at nominal extra cost.

We strongly recommend now that since your pet has no front nor back claws, to keep him or her indoors only. This is mainly due to the fact that they no longer have the capability of surviving outdoors.

Please don’t hesitate to call the clinic with any questions or problems during regular business hours. We will examine your cat at no charge within 14 days of the surgical procedure. Some fees may apply if antibiotics and/or other treatment is required. We will not be responsible for services received at another facility. **WE ARE NOT A 24-HOUR FACILITY.**