



Kingborough

Desexing your Cat Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I desex my cat?

There are far too many cats already and not enough homes for them all. Letting your cat have kittens is irresponsible and also involves considerable cost to you in caring for a litter of kittens. A cat can have an average of four to six kittens per litter. Each kitten must be fed, wormed, and treated for fleas.

As of 1 July 2012, it is a legal requirement that each kitten must be microchipped and desexed before they are sold or given away. They should also be vaccinated at six to eight weeks of age (this is repeated at 12-14 weeks and 16-18 weeks depending on the vaccine and the protocol used). All this can add up to \$180 - \$250 per kitten for the first eight weeks alone. Desexing your cat before it has kittens is a much easier and less expensive option.

A desexed cat is less likely to:

- Wander or run away, especially males.
- Spray or mark its territory (which is often the house).
- Contract Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) (also known as Feline AIDS), through territorial fighting with other cats that may have the virus.
- Develop certain type of tumours such as - uterine, ovarian and mammary (breast) cancer in females and testicular cancer in males.
- Get into fights over territory or mating partners, this reduces injuries such as abscesses, infected wounds and car trauma which are often serious and sometimes fatal.
- Exhibit anti-social behaviour towards people or other animals, thus reducing the enjoyment of owning a pet.

Where can get my cat desexed at a reasonable price?

1. **The Hobart Community Vet Clinic** in Lenah Valley offers low cost desexing year round.

Hobart Community Vet Clinic
Phone: (03) 6228 0205 (*bookings are essential*)

2. **The National Desexing Network (NDN) – discounted desexing**

The National Desexing Network (NDN) is a nationwide referral system for discounted desexing made available to pet owners in financial need. The NDN's goal is to end pet overpopulation by making this service more affordable to those who might not otherwise be in a position to desex their pets.

Discount desexing vouchers from NDN are only available to individuals holding a pension, concession or healthcare card showing a CRN number. Applications should be made online, using the link below:

<http://www.ndn.org.au/apply-for-low-cost-desexing.html>



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Civic Centre, 15 Channel Hwy, Kingston, Tasmania 7050 Locked Bag 1, Kingston Tasmania 7050
AusDoc: DX 70854 T: (03) 6211 8200 F: (03) 6211 8211 E: kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au

Please note - if you can afford to pay your veterinarian's normal fees, it is important that you do so. The NDN referral service is designed for pet owners in genuine financial need; it is unfair to ask veterinarians to reduce reasonable fees for financially secure clients who are simply looking for 'the best deal'.

To contact the NDN call 1300 368 992

3. Discount Desexing for Everyone in July

Each year, during National Desexing Month (July), selected Vet clinics in Tasmania promote desexing and generously offer special deals to encourage the community to desex their pet in July before the spring breeding season. The aim is to help prevent the thousands of unwanted cats and dogs which are killed in pounds and shelters each year.

You do NOT need a voucher or a pension or concession card for the special offers listed below (unless specified).

National Desexing Month specials are offered to everyone in **JULY ONLY** and are offered by the following participating vets: *Please note: participating vets and prices may change without notice*

- **Hobart Community Vet Clinic**

8-10 Colebrook Street, Lenah Valley 7008

Phone: (03) 6228 0205 (*bookings are essential*)

- Cats: Male \$65, Female \$95
- Dogs: Male (sml) \$110 (med) \$120 (lg) \$135
- Dogs: Female (sml) \$145 (med) \$160 (lg) \$180

- **Macquarie Animal Hospital**

330 Macquarie Street, South Hobart 7004

Phone: (03) 6224 4877

(*Call clinic for special July prices and conditions*)

- **Sandy Bay Holistic Vet Centre**

11 Gregory Street, Sandy Bay 7005

Phone: (03) 6224 0855

(*Deal Offer: go in the draw to win back your desexing fee*)



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