



Shantock Hall Lane, Bovingdon, HP3 0NQ

Tel: 01442 833198

info@hopevets.com

[www.hopevets.com](http://www.hopevets.com)

## Your cat's Pre-Op Care



Your cat is coming in to us for a procedure. Please follow these instructions.

We understand that leaving your cat can be very worrying, so we are more than happy to answer any questions you may have. Just call us on 01442 833 198.

Please remember:

1. It is important that general anaesthesia or sedation is carried out on an empty stomach but that the animal isn't starved for too long. Please give your cat a snack or small meal (up to 1/3 of a normal portion) about midnight or just before you go to bed and **no food at all on the morning** of the procedure. There is no need to remove the water prior to your cat coming in. If your cat is 4 months old or less please give a small breakfast (1/3 normal portion) at 6am and nothing after that except water.
2. Please make sure that you keep your cat indoors the night before the procedure so that you can keep a close eye on him/her but also to make sure he/she doesn't escape when the carry box comes out!
3. Be sure to place a litter tray down overnight and keep it down ready for his/her return, as he/she is likely to need a few days of close monitoring where he/she will not be able to go out.
4. If there has been any change in your cat's condition or symptoms since we saw him/her last, please let us know when you drop him/her off.
5. It will take about 10 minutes to admit your cat in the morning as we need to go through a consent form with you. Please ensure we have phone numbers where we can contact you throughout the day.
6. When we discharge your cat, we may recommend taking a "buster" collar to prevent interference with wounds or stitches. It is well worth having at home as there is nothing worse than hearing him/her licking the wound in the middle of the night and having no way of stopping him/her. Please let us know if you think your cat is likely to lick or chew his/her wound. We can also order in fitted medical shirts for animals likely to interfere with wounds on their trunk, who hate buster collars. Simply measure from the back of their neck where the collar sits to the base of the tail (where the tail joins the bum), we can then order in the correct sized shirt ready for the day of the procedure.
7. If your cat is not already microchipped, it is worth considering having him/her microchipped whilst under anaesthetic. The microchip is a permanent way of identifying a pet, ensuring that if your cat was ever lost or stolen there would be a good chance of him/her being returned to you.
8. For some pets we may also recommend a pre-anaesthetic blood test and blood pressure check, which ensures your cat is well enough to cope with the general anaesthetic and sedative drugs.
9. After your cat's procedure, we will ring you to arrange a discharge appointment so that we can go through all his/her post operative care.

All that's left to say is go home have a large mug of tea and try not to worry.

