



To Start A Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic

First, determine the need for a clinic, finding out through surveys how many cats/dogs you will plan to spay/neuter per day, how many days per week. Thirty to fifty surgeries per day is average for a clinic that does exclusively spay/neuter. From this information, you can begin to prepare a budget.

You need a convenient location, a well-trained vet, and the following equipment:

- Surgery table and light
- Cages/ carriers (for cats) and squeeze cage for anesthetizing feral cats
- Water supply
- Miscellaneous drugs including anesthesia*, analgesics, antibiotics, and vaccines
- Refrigerator
- Cleaning equipment
- Clippers
- Autoclave
- Scale
- Spay packs and pack storage area
- Instrument trays and stand
- Suture material
- Drapes, gowns and gloves
- Locking cabinet for drug storage
- Animal emergency kit
- *and/or gas anesthesia machine

Most of these essential items can be obtained at a reduced cost or free from hospitals or veterinarians buying new equipment. We suggest putting a person or group in charge of finding the needed materials. Another person or group can look for a place for the clinic, or check into the feasibility of a van. Bringing these various elements together will vary, for each clinic has its own unique set of circumstances, location, clientele, and founding group. Contact SPAY/USA for more information and details on other clinics already set up. (See next page for sample floor plans.)

