



CRATE & EXERCISE LIMITATIONS



SPRINGS

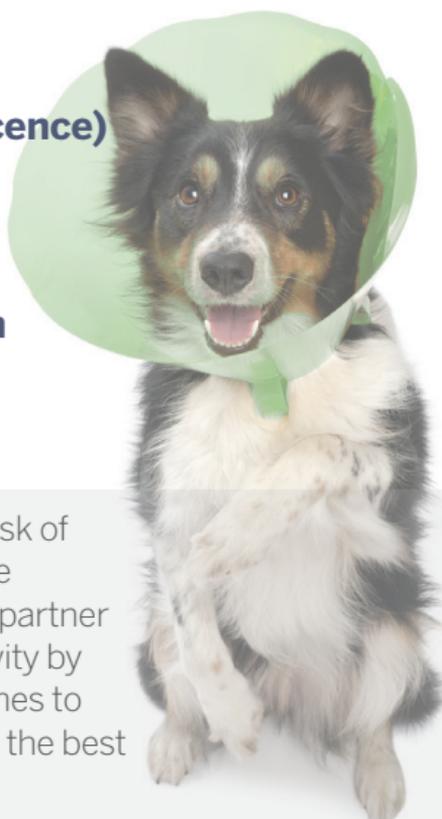
VETERINARY CARE

Veterinarians typically prescribe crate rest for pets following an injury or surgery as part of their treatment or recovery. "Crate restriction" usually means your pet will need to be kept in a crate for most of the day with no running, jumping or rough play, coming out only to use the bathroom. Restriction can last anywhere from a few days to multiple weeks depending on the procedure or injury.

BENEFITS OF LIMITATIONS

- ✓ **Allows your pet's body to heal appropriately**
- ✓ **Decreases the risk of complications**
- ✓ **Decreases the risk of further injury**
- ✓ **Helps facilitate your pet's proper recovery**
- ✓ **Decreases likelihood of incision opening (dehiscence)**
- ✓ **Decreases fluid build-up (seroma)**
- ✓ **Lessens risk of infection**
- ✓ **Lessens additional surgical procedures**

With surgery, there is always risk of complications, however, we are committed as your veterinary partner to your pet's health and longevity by providing these helpful guidelines to prevent future injury and allow the best opportunity for recovery.



[SpringsVet.com](https://www.springsvet.com)



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CRATE & EXERCISE LIMITATIONS

CRATE INTRODUCTION & SELECTION

- **Size** – Allow enough space for your pet to stand up, stretch out and turn around
- **Height** – Crate should be 2 - 4 inches taller than your pet in a sitting position
- **Timeline** – Introduce the crate a few weeks ahead of your pet's surgery or treatment if not already using

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- **Floor Matting** – Made of rubber or a non-slip material so your pet can move around without injury
- **Blankets & Soft Bedding** – Recommended if your pet is not a chewer
- **Ample Space** – Especially for a water and food bowl (*including a litter box for cats*)

CRATE LOCATION

- Well-circulated area nearest the door you will use for bathroom breaks
- The area just outside of the crate should be a non-slip surface to reduce the risk of injury to you or your pet

EXERCISE TIPS

EXERCISE SAFELY

- Crate your pet except for leashed walks for the bathroom or to eat
- Walk your pet on a leash to prevent them from running or jumping
- Use a harness when possible to prevent undue pressure on your pet's neck by leash tugging

PREVENT BOREDOM & ANXIETY

- Dedicate time each day with your pet
- Supply food-dispensing toys or sturdy chew toys, such as Kongs filled with peanut butter
- Move the location of the cage around occasionally for a change of scenery
- Medications or supplements may be prescribed to keep an active pet more calm during the recovery process



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