



**MALVERN
VET
HOSPITAL**

547 Dandenong Road, Armadale, VIC 3143 | 9509 7611 | askthevet@malvernvet.com.au

CATS & KITTENS

Malvern Vet Hospital is open 7 days a week:

Monday to Friday 8am – 7pm

Saturday 9am – 4pm

Sunday 10am – 12:30pm

Public holidays: Closed

JOINING THE PACK:

A NEW CLIENT GUIDE



Consultation bookings can be made via:

Online Booking: www.malvernvet.com.au

 (03) 9509 7611

 askthevet@malvernvet.com.au

 Malvern Veterinary Hospital |  [malvern_veterinary_hospital](https://www.instagram.com/malvern_veterinary_hospital)
www.malvernvet.com.au

On behalf of our entire team at **Malvern Veterinary Hospital** we would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and thank you for choosing our hospital for your pets' care. We want your pet to live its longest and best life possible.

We invite you to follow us on our Facebook and Instagram accounts as a fun way to stay in the loop, with helpful information and to see the wonderful pets we have the pleasure of looking after:

 Malvern Veterinary Hospital

 malvern_veterinary_hospital

Malvern Vet has been re-awarded ASAVA (Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association) "Hospital of Excellence" Accreditation repeatedly since 1981. Hospital of Excellence status is continuously re-assessed and is presented in recognition of very high standards of diagnostic, surgical, laboratory, and nursing facilities in the practice. There are currently only 13 practices in Victoria that have been awarded this honour so you can rest easy knowing your pet is in good hands.

WHY CHOOSE US



Accredited
Veterinary
Hospital
Scheme

Proudly ASAVA Accredited:
A Hospital of Excellence!

**Where your pet's health and
happiness come first!**

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Malvern Vet Hospital, we are committed to providing compassionate, high-quality care for our patients and their families. As an ASAVA-accredited Hospital of Excellence, we advocate for every animal, ensuring their well-being and voicing their needs. Our mission is to support our clients by empowering them with the knowledge they need to make the best decisions for their pets.

We strive for excellence in clinical care, record-keeping, and creating an anxiety-free environment. Our thorough and efficient approach ensures gold-standard care tailored to each patient's unique needs.

We treat our clients with kindness, respect, and empathy, listening to their concerns and offering clear options. By fostering open communication, we help clients make informed decisions that support the well-being of their pets.

Our goal is to uphold the highest standards of care, ensuring both patients and families feel valued and understood in every interaction.

Calm and Caring A Fear Free Approach Because every pet deserves a positive experience!



Our Fear Free Approach to Patient Care

Our fear-free approach is based on looking after our patient's emotional wellbeing as well as their physical health. Our entire Veterinary team are familiar with fear-free pet handling and care. We strive to handle your cat with gentle control in the least stressful and most safe environment we can create. We also utilise calming pheromones throughout the building to help create a calm and familiar environment for them to visit.

All of our team are vigilant for any pets that may be showing signs of stress, anxiety and/or fear. If your pet exhibits any of these signs when with a member of our team, our team will discuss this with you and provide you with options to help improve their visits with us.

When it comes to our feline patients, much of the surroundings in a vet hospital can be quite scary for them. Leading some of our patients to feel fear, anxiety, and stress (FAS). We know that cats feel safer when they can be elevated off the floor and have their carrier covered with a blanket. We have created a cat only safe space in our waiting area to cater to feline senses, so that we can promote relaxation for our patients and clients.

Our team continues to make improvements to help all of our patients feel more comfortable about coming into the hospital. If you would like some more information, please speak to a member of our team to advise you on your pet's individual needs.

Offering the Best for Your Pets

Malvern Vet Hospital offers a comprehensive range of veterinary and animal health related services to ensure your pet is in excellent condition. As an ASAVA accredited veterinary hospital, we aim to provide the largest range of pet services to our clients:



Consultations:



From routine veterinary consultations, through to more complex work-ups



Diagnostics, treatment and management of simple and complex medical conditions / illnesses



Vaccinations



Dietary advice and weight management plans



Comprehensive range of pharmaceuticals



Registered microchipping



Fulfilling AQIS requirements for pets travelling overseas.

Diagnostics available:



Ultrasonography



Digital radiography



Electrocardiography (ECG)



Endoscopy



Cryosurgery



Dental radiography



Comprehensive internal pathology: Haematology, Biochemistry, Urinalysis, Microbiology and Cytology

Surgical procedures:



From routine procedures such as desexing, through to more complex surgeries



Simple and Complex Dentistry

z.z.z.. Cat grooming under sedation



Additional Services:



Large purpose built Cattery



Dog grooming



Onsite Puppy Pre-school



Pet merchandise



Large range of maintenance and Prescription diets





Cat boarding

Malvern Vet Hospital has a modern purpose-built, temperature controlled and extraction ventilated cattery. Built with your cats' needs in mind, these condos feature separate litter tray ensembles with 1-2 mezzanine levels. It is a favourite with many of our clients, and its success is due to the safe environment provided for feline visitors and the peace of mind we offer to cat owners when they are away from home. If you own a couple of cats, we have the option for inter-connecting cages so that they can move freely between them both, or a larger premium cat run suite with multi-level climbing shelves.

We aim to keep your cat as happy and healthy while you are away as they are at home. Our Veterinary team are very familiar with fear free approaches to pet handling and care. For this reason they are vigilant for any cats that may be showing signs of stress, anxiety and/or fear. If your cat exhibits any of these signs our team of nurses will discuss this with you and provide you with options to help improve their stay with us.

Everything they need for a comfortable stay is provided by us, including premium Hills Science Diet food, free roaming time and copious cuddles. Our team of veterinary nurses are highly trained in all aspects of animal health and have a solid reputation for delivering high standards of care. Our team are capable of providing exceptional care for senior cats, and those who require medication and/or have extra needs (some terms and conditions apply). These needs are attended to by our qualified Vet Nurses and there's always a Vet on hand if needed!

For all enquiries regarding our cat boarding, please call us on **(03) 9509 7611**.



Offering the Best for Your Pets



Flea and Worming Mail out Service

We all know just how busy life can get, and our pets important flea and worming prevention treatment is often on the bottom of the list of things to remember. Why not allow us to do the remembering for you?

For a small fee you can sign up to Malvern Vet Hospital's mail out service. Our team will prepare and post your pet's flea and/or worming prevention treatment directly to you when it is due. You simply give it to your pet when you receive it in the post. It's super easy and fast to set up. Just fill out the form found on our website in the 'Click and Collect' section and we will do the rest. Or, for more information on this service, please call us on **(03) 9509 7611**.



PAW-SOME TIPS

from your
Friendly Vet!

NOURISH
to FLOURISH

Healthy meals for happy tails!

Choosing the right food for your cat is paramount to their overall well-being. High-quality cat food, carefully formulated to meet feline nutritional needs, offers a plethora of health benefits that contribute to a happy and thriving pet. Long-term feeding of a high-quality cat food is an investment in the health and happiness of our four-legged friends. Our Vets regularly recommend Hills Prescription Diet t/d as a maintenance diet. With 70% of cats over 2 years of age suffering from dental issues, feeding a high quality premium food that is specially formulated to support their dental health is a great way to help maintain your cat's health and well-being.



Transforming Lives



Premium cat foods are:

- Nutritionally dense and have easily digestible ingredients, reducing the likelihood of digestive issues such as upset stomach, gas, or diarrhoea. A diet tailored to a cat's digestive system promotes nutrient absorption, supports energy levels and healthy stools.
- Premium cat foods often contain high levels of essential fatty acids, like omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids. These fatty acids play an important role in promoting a healthy skin barrier and a shiny coat.
- Balanced levels of calcium and phosphorus contribute to strong bones and teeth.
- Maintaining a healthy weight is a critical aspect of a cat's overall health. High-quality cat food is formulated with the right balance of nutrients to support weight maintenance, helping to avoid obesity-related issues and promoting a healthy, active lifestyle for our pets.
- A well-nourished cat is more likely to have a robust immune system, which in turn is better equipped to fend off infections and diseases. Premium grade cat foods, such as Hills Science Diet, include high levels of antioxidants, like vitamin C & E that play a crucial role in supporting a healthy immune system.

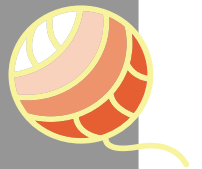


Feeding Kittens:

A kitten's stomach is too small to hold enough food in a single feeding to provide its daily requirement of nutrients needed. Kittens that are fed a complete and balanced diet do not need supplemental vitamins, minerals and protein. These additions may cause a nutritional imbalance and interfere with the normal development of growing kittens.

Young kittens should be fed:

- 4 times daily until they are 3 months old,
- 3 times daily until 6 months old
- 1-2 times daily 6+ months.



Adult Cats:

After a cat is fully grown, it is classified as an adult and enters the maintenance period of life. Healthy adult cats that are not pregnant or nursing have lower energy requirements for maintaining ideal body condition compared to kittens. An adult maintenance food should have highly digestible ingredients and contain high quality protein to help maintain lean body mass. Antioxidants are important to support cognitive and immune system health, along with the addition of omega-3 and -6 fatty acids to help maintain healthy skin and coat.



Vaccinate for a Happy Healthy Life!

Keep those Purrs
coming!

Vaccines help teach your pet's immune system how to recognise and fight off certain disease-causing agents. Vaccines work by stimulating the immune system's production of antibodies that identify and destroy these agents—before they can cause disease. This helps to prevent or lessen the severity of future disease, which is especially important for young and senior cats. At Malvern Vet Hospital we recommend F5 vaccines for indoor cats, and F6 vaccines (which includes FIV) for cats that spend some time outdoors. These vaccines protect cats from the following feline diseases:

- **Feline Panleukopenia virus:** a serious and fatal virus resulting in diarrhoea, vomiting, and fever.
- **Feline Herpes Virus (FHV):** a highly contagious virus that is one of the major causes of upper respiratory infections (URIs) or "cat flu" in cats.
- **Feline Calicivirus:** a highly contagious virus that causes a mild to severe respiratory infection and oral disease in cats.
- **Feline Chlamydophila:** a bacterial infection that affects the eyes or the upper respiratory tract (nose/ throat) of a cat, and can spread to the lungs if left untreated.
- **Feline Leukemia (FeLV):** a virus that commonly causes anaemia or lymphoma- but because it suppresses the immune system, it can also predispose cats to deadly infections.
- **Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV):** is a virus that is one of the most common and infectious diseases of cats around the world. FIV attacks the immune system, leaving the cat vulnerable to many other infections. Recent studies show that between 14% and 29% of cats in the community are positive for this virus. It is spread through cat bite and scratch wounds. If a cat has never been vaccinated for FIV before, it will need a series of three vaccinations, 2-4 weeks apart, to give them adequate immunity. A blood test prior to vaccinating is recommended for high risk adult cats to make sure they don't already have the disease.

We recommend kittens to be vaccinated at 6-8 weeks, 10-12 weeks and 14-16 weeks of age. Kittens should stay indoors and away from unknown cats until at least 7 days after the third vaccination. They can play with other kittens or cats that you know are vaccinated as this is important for socialization. To sustain an adequate immune response to these diseases, booster vaccinations are recommended to be given annually.

Protect Their Tummies! Happy tummies make for happy pets!

Intestinal worms are parasites — they survive by living in another living thing (the host) and getting their food from it. A large intestinal parasite burden can cause your cat to struggle in maintaining a healthy body condition, and they tend to lose weight. In some cases it can cause vomiting, diarrhoea and even anaemia (a low red blood cell level). Occasionally severe burdens can cause death. Some worms infesting cats are zoonotic, meaning they can be transmitted from animals to humans. Worm eggs are everywhere and kittens commonly get a worm infestation from their mothers shortly after birth.

Malvern Vet Hospital recommends preventing intestinal worms in your cat with ongoing all worming treatment. It is important to know your cat's accurate weight to ensure they are receiving an adequate and safe treatment for intestinal worms.

Tablet: Kittens should be wormed at 6, 8, and 12 weeks of age, then monthly at 4, 5, and 6 months, and from then on every 3 months for life.

Spot-on products: The best worming spot-on products deliver broad-spectrum protection for cats against common intestinal worms, including Roundworm, Hookworm, Whipworm and Tapeworm. Some additionally protect your cat against Lungworm. Most can be used once your cat's weight is over 2.5kg, every 3 months ongoing. Please check the administration recommendations before using any product to ensure you are providing the correct dose.



FLEA-FREE is the Way to Be! Keep those pesky pets at bay for happy, scratch-free days!

Fleas are more than just a nuisance for your cat. They can cause chronic skin disease and even transmit infectious or parasitic diseases, some of which are transmissible to humans. As flea populations thrive best indoors, we recommend using flea prevention for indoor cats also.

Malvern Vet Hospital recommends using a powerful long lasting prevention treatment. The best products last 3 months and come in a spot-on form for your convenience, and are safe to use on kittens above 11 weeks of age and over 1.2 kg. Some products also protect your pet against paralysis ticks which can be especially important if you travel to NSW.

SNIP, SNIP, HOORAY!

A Healthier pet means more love to share!

We advise that all cats should be desexed unless they are to be used for breeding. Cats can start having kittens at a very young age and throughout their lifetime can deliver many litters, even whilst nursing their previous litter. This problem highlights the importance of desexing your cat at an early age and reducing the number of unwanted animals in our communities, overwhelming our animal shelters. In addition to preventing unwanted litters, desexing may result in a positive behavioural change in your

cat as it can help to eliminate a lot of adult cat problems, such as wandering, aggression and (extremely common) urine-spraying behaviours. Desexing may also minimise the chance of your cat developing reproductive organ related health issues, that may possibly be fatal. We recommend desexing your cat at **5 to 6 months of age.**

The day surgery is performed in sterile conditions under a general anaesthetic, with highly trained veterinary professionals using gold standards of care. We prioritise pain management and ensure all our patients receive optimal pain relief: before, during and after the procedure.

In boys, both testicles are removed and there are no stitches required. For girls, the ovaries and uterus are removed which involves abdominal surgery. They have stitches within the skin which dissolve, therefore do not require removal. Although your cat may feel back to normal the next day, we strongly advise to keep them indoors until they are fully healed approximately 10-14 days later.

Malvern

Vet Hospital highly recommends pet insurance for your pet. High quality health care and surgery can be expensive, and unfortunately there is no Medicare for pets. Pet insurance will buffer you against unexpected vet bills, so that you will be able to approve the best standards of health care for your cat when needed, without financial stress.

Malvern Vet Hospital also offers GapOnly as a payment service! If your pet has a policy with a GapOnly pet insurance partner (over 80% of policies are eligible) then, for eligible expenses, you can access your pet insurance benefit on the spot. You'll only pay us the gap which is the difference between the invoice and the eligible claim benefit under your policy.

Visit the GapOnly website at <https://gaponly.com.au/gaponly-insurance-partners/> for a range of insurance options. There are many different insurers and we suggest doing your research to find one that fits your needs and budget.

Check out this link to quickly compare GapOnly-ready pet insurance plans and find cover that works for you and your pet: gaponly.com.au/comparepetinsurance.

Protect Your Best Friend!

Stay Prepared for Life's unexpected surprises!



KEEP THOSE CHOMPERS CLEAN!

Dental health is key to your pet's overall happiness!

Dental care for your pet may be more important than you think. 70% of cats over 3 years old have dental disease. The accumulation of bacteria laden plaque above the gum line can lead to long term oral health issues and significant oral pain. Recent studies have demonstrated there is a link between bad oral health and chronic disease affecting the kidney, heart and metabolic systems.

We recommend:

Dental Prophylaxis (cleaning) annually under general anaesthesia is the gold standard way of ensuring your cat doesn't develop dental disease. Malvern Vet Hospital has priced these prophylactic procedures at a greatly reduced rate in an effort to make this important care affordable for all.

Hills Prescription T/D is a complete and balanced nutritional diet which is clinically proven to reduce plaque, stain and tartar build-up. It has a unique kibble size and shape made up of a special fibre matrix that helps to mechanically clean the teeth as the kibble is eaten.

Greenies Dental chews given daily helps to clean your cat's teeth by using its natural chewing action to remove plaque and tartar build-up from the surface of the teeth. The chewy and flexible texture allows teeth to sink in with every bite, all the way to the gums for more effective cleaning.

Manual Brushing is a great way to maintain a healthy mouth. Starting young and making it a reward-based activity can help in introducing this. A finger toothbrush or a soft-bristled child's toothbrush with pet toothpaste as often as possible can help to reduce the bacteria in the mouth, reducing plaque build up and dental disease.



HOME IS JUST A CHIP AWAY!

Because every pet deserves a way home!

Microchip identification involves the placement of a small microchip under the skin at the back of the neck. It is coded with a reference number which is linked to your details at a centralised national database. Microchipping your pet gives you the best chance of being reunited with them if they ever get lost. Your information can be obtained within minutes if your cat is presented lost to a veterinary clinic or pound. It is important that if your contact details change, these are updated with the database so we have the best chance of reuniting you with your lost pet.

It is always good practice to check that your pet's microchip is working correctly, so we are happy to scan them on request whenever you come into the clinic. If you have your pet's microchip number, you can access the database and check if your details are current, alternatively you can call Central Animal Records (CAR) on 9706 3187 and they will assist you.



STAY CALM - KEEP PURRING!



**Together, we can tackle anxiety
one paw at a time!**

As a pet owner, you want the best for your fur baby. You want them to be healthy - physically and emotionally. Like humans, cats can experience anxiety for many reasons, such as when left at home alone, in a new environment or when meeting another animal. It is important to recognise that separation anxiety can develop at any age- not just in kittens. Not uncommonly it can manifest in senior pets experiencing cognitive decline and dementia.

Feliway is a synthetic copy of the recognition pheromone that cats release when rubbing their heads against objects in their environment, when they are feeling safe and comfortable. This pheromone has a calming effect on kittens and cats in stressful situations and can be extremely beneficial. Using Feliway around the home reassures and comforts your cat during times of change or stress. It comes as a plug in diffuser which lasts a month before you need to replace the refill, or as an environmental spray which must be used daily.

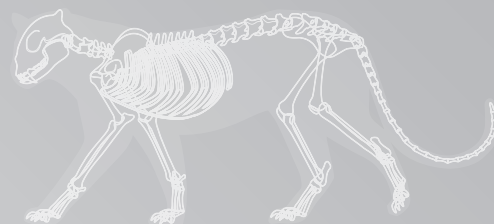
If your cat is suffering from anxiety - please speak to our team for professional help.

Pentosan Polysulphate injections are a unique injectable drug that stimulates cartilage re-growth, degrades arthritic bony spicules and improves the quality of joint fluid. It also has anti-inflammatory properties. It is given as a weekly injection for four weeks and this course is repeated every 3, 6 or 12 months depending on your cat's needs. Often used in combination with other arthritis treatments.

Hills Prescription Kidney and Mobility food down regulates gene expression, reducing the production of the main protein that causes cartilage destruction. This is a premium diet that contains a very high level of nutritional supplementation of omega-3 fatty acids (fish oils). These omega-3s are anti-inflammatory at high levels and helpful for cats with arthritis. This food is often used in conjunction with other treatments.

Joint Supplements are great to introduce into your cats diet. If your cat is diagnosed with arthritis, our veterinary team will suggest a joint supplement to help reduce inflammation and support cartilage regeneration.

Weight management and maintaining a lean body weight is important as a drug-free way to manage arthritis. If you'd like advice on your cat's body condition and weight loss, please discuss this with our team.



KEEP THEM MOVING!

STRONG JOINTS FOR HAPPY, PLAYFUL PETS!

Arthritis or degenerative joint disease is a common problem in aging cats. It is the result of wear and tear of cartilage in the joints. Cats are stoic and often don't show signs of arthritis. Subtle signs to look out for can be as simple as hesitation to leap onto the couch or counter, or vocalisation when picked up.

We have a range of treatment options and medications available that are designed to preserve cartilage, decrease inflammation and provide pain relief:

Monoclonal antibody injections are a monthly injection which targets Nerve Growth Factor, a pain receptor in the joints. By blocking these receptors we block the pain messages from being delivered, thus helping with pain relief and inflammation in the joints. Not only can it resolve pain signs, but by reducing inflammatory messengers it can reduce the progression of arthritis in the joints. Highly recommended.

Love Your Visit?

We'd Appreciate you spreading the word!

Please leave us a Google Review!

If you are happy with our service, please refer us to your friends and family. We will thank you by applying a credit to your account at Malvern Vet Hospital to use when you next visit.



We thank you again for joining the Malvern Vet Hospital Family and look forward to seeing you and your furry family member next time.



www.malvernveter.com.au