

Mancelona Veterinary Hospital
10338 South U.S. Highway 131
Mancelona, MI
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Declaw

Many people think a feline declaw is simply the removal of the claw when in actuality, it is the amputation of the last bone of the digit. Looking at your own hand, you can count three bones in your finger with the last bone including the nail. The third bone is amputated at the joint between the second and third bone, which takes with it the nail (claw). This is a painful procedure. At Mancelona Veterinary Hospital, we include comprehensive pain management with declaw patients. In most cases, cats will heal in a short amount of time, but some may take 2 weeks or more for full recovery.

- There are not any stitches to be removed in the paws.
- There may be some discomfort the first couple of days after surgery. The oral pain medication will help with that, however, rest and time will be the most helpful.
- Keep your pet quiet for about 2 weeks after surgery.
- The paws should be checked daily keeping watch for discharge or swelling. If anything is noted, please contact the clinic immediately.
- Limit the amount of jumping up and down. They may break open their toes if they jump around too much.
- If the toes start to bleed, you can either apply a small amount of pressure or apply a light bandage. If the bleeding seems like a lot and does not stop within five minutes, please contact us.
- A special litter should be used in the litter box to help prevent an infection.
- Pain medication must be given with a meal.
- Give all medication as directed.
- If you have any questions or concerns please contact us.