

CARE OF BANDAGES AND CASTS

Bandages and casts can be quite a challenge to manage. This is why we only apply them in cases where they're absolutely necessary to ensure the speediest recovery. We wish we could explain this to pets!

If a bandage or cast gets wet, damaged or slips, the recovery process can be prolonged, therefore please follow these bandage care instructions closely:

Keep the bandage dry – *a wet bandage will cause infection in the underlying skin and prolong the healing process!*

For cats, this will mean keeping them indoors.

For dogs, they should have a plastic cover put over any time they go outdoors (unless the ground is bone dry and clean!) We can supply these. They should be removed when your dog returns indoors.

Ensure that your pet isn't licking/chewing at the bandage excessively. We may need to give you a buster collar or Bitter Bite spray can help.

Ensure that the bandage isn't slipping

Check it twice daily, and contact us if you are concerned. **Please don't be tempted to secure a bandage yourself with an elastic band or other tight dressing!** These can cause bigger problems. If the vet has given you some bandaging materials for use at home, please follow their instructions closely, and be sure not to apply them too tightly.

Ensure the recheck appointments are kept

This is to ensure the dressings are being changed regularly. The vet will advise how often your particular bandage will need to be changed. If wound discharge builds up within the dressing, this can prevent wound healing and again, increase the time your pet needs to wear its bandage.

Contact us immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Foul smell from the bandage.
- Swollen/cold/blue toes outside the bandage. If you're not sure, compare one foot to the other.
- Swelling or soreness at the top of the bandage.
- Your pet showing any signs of lethargy, depression, distress.
- Your pet suddenly beginning to lick/chew at the bandage.

